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SEPTEMBER 9, 2010

Hopkins to charge students for CPS codes

By ERICH REIMER
For The News-Letter

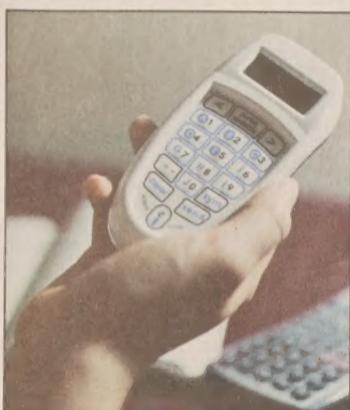
This fall, Hopkins has begun charging students for enrollment codes necessary for instruction's Classroom Performance System (CPS), also known simply as "clickers."

In the past, Hopkins has provided students with free enrollment codes, which have been prominently used in many classes at the university.

Recently however, the University has begun charging either \$10 per semester or \$35 for a lifetime subscription code for enrollment with the CPS units.

The recent change has caused debate among the student body.

Steven David, Vice Dean for Undergraduate Education and faculty member in the Department of Political Science, said that, "My understanding is that the university wanted to direct costs to the students who most benefited from the device... the sense that I got is that the university saw it as similar to having



MORGAN YANG/
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Codes for a CPS clicker will now cost
students \$35 for a lifetime subscription.

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Hut not to return to 24-hour schedule

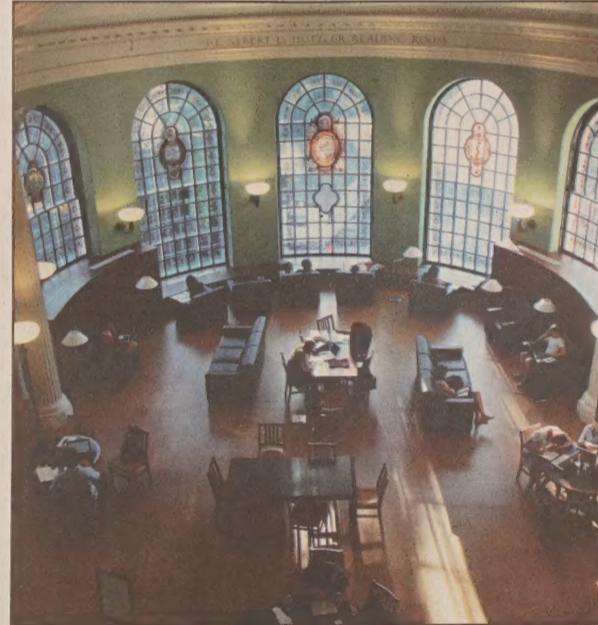
By JEWEL EDWARDS-WALDO
For The News-Letter

Since its renovation, students have been studying in Gilman's Hutzler Reading Room with an increasing frequency. Many upperclassmen remember the hours they spent in the Hut fondly, reminiscing on those harried times they crammed until dawn for finals and tests. For underclassmen, however, this particular memory is one that cannot be created.

Beginning this week, the MSE will be the only public place that students will be able to use 24/7. The Hut will remain open only from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. for students during the weekday, and from noon to midnight on the weekends. For some, this news comes as a disappointment.

"I wish the Hut was open 24 hours instead of the library," said senior Tiffany Chan. "It's a lot more comfortable, and nicer."

Junior Shantini Persaud was angered by the Hut's hours, saying it was a much



WILL SHEPHERDSON/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Prior to its renovation, the Hutzler Reading Room was open 24 hours to students.

happier place to study, because of its openness.

"I'm considerably upset," Persaud said. "Since Gilman hasn't been open for two years, people were anticipat-

ing another place to study. And at the Library, they've shut off all the windows on the lower levels. There is no (natural) light. It's depressing. In

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Students and alum join campaign for new Democrat

By LAURA MUTH
News & Features Editor

In view of the upcoming democratic primary for state senate for Hopkins' district, a Hopkins alum and a number of Hopkins students decided it was time for change.

The primary is September 14. Since there is no apparent Republican candidate, the winner of the primary will most likely be the next state senator.

Daniel Teran, a graduate of the class of 2010, had worked with a city councilman before, and after graduation became the campaign manager for Hector Torres, one of the first serious challengers to State Senator Joan Carter Conway since she was elected fourteen years ago.

Teran also helped recruit senior Max Dvorin, who became the field director for Torres's campaign.

Both expressed enthusiasm for their candidate, who they think has potential to help both the Hopkins community and reform state government.

Teran mentioned the three key ideals shaping Torres's campaign: "Engage. Innovate. Communicate."

"[Torres] wants to engage the community in decisions and look for new solutions to old problems," he said. "He wants to look at what kind

of solutions are working in other

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Class of 2014 arrives on campus

Greater intellectual and racial diversity marks new crop of undergraduates

By GRACE YEON
For The News-Letter

This year over 18,000 students vied for a spot in the class of 2014, an admission pool which was a 201 percent increase in applicants since 2001. Of the 18,458 students who applied, 3,793 students were offered admission with 1,249 students actually matriculating this year.

The number of students matriculating this year decreased, compared to the 1,350 students who matriculated last year. This may have been due to less students being admitted this year. Last year the admit rate was 27 percent while this year it decreased to 21 percent.

Due to last year's high admit rate, the current sophomore class is over enrolled. University Spokesman Dennis O'Shea said, "The Admissions Office was very careful this year to be conservative. The amount of freshmen we admitted this year was at a much better place."

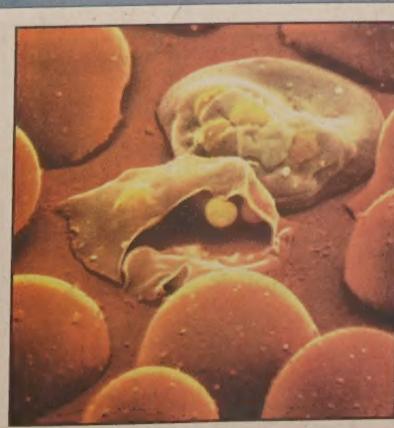
The mean SAT I combined score for the class of 2014 was 1402 and the mean un-weighted academic GPA was 3.72.

There are a total of 184 underrepresented minority students in the class of 2014, the composition of which is 6.5 percent African American/Black, 7.7 percent Hispanic/Latino, and 0.5 percent Native American/Alaskan/Hawaiian/Pacific Islander for an overall percentage of 14.7 percent being underrepresented minority students.

Compared to last year's underrepresented minority student mix of 5.9 percent African American/Black, 6.8 percent Hispanic/Latino and 0.2 percent Native American/Alaskan/Hawaiian/Pacific Islander for a total of 12.9 percent of the class of 2013 being underrepresented minority students, the class of

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COURTESY OF WILL KIRK

Move-in approaches for newly acquired Keswick complex

By RIAN DAWSON
News & Features Editor

By November, a group of about 350 people are to move into the newly-renovated buildings in North Baltimore, recently bought by the University. The buildings, originally owned by the Zurich Financial Company, were bought last year. Because of their location along Keswick road, the complex

has been dubbed "Johns Hopkins at Keswick."

FSK Land Corp., a company of which the University and the Hopkins health system own 50 percent, was used to acquire the buildings. The process of negotiating the price of the buildings began last spring.

One reason the buildings were considered an attractive purpose was the time they became available

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NEWS & FEATURES



MORGAN YANG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

The Shriver auditorium front steps will be fenced off until its scheduled October completion.

Various construction projects on schedule

By RIAN DAWSON
News & Features Editor

Signs posted on M-Level of the MSE Library warn of loud noises. There is yellow tape at the center of Maryland Hall, and the front entrance to Shriver Hall is completely fenced off as workers continue the renovation project. Sometimes, while walking to class, students get a face-full of dust as a result of digging and moving equipment.

Though the completion of the renovations to Gilman Hall marked the end to one of the larger undertakings in recent endeavors to improve campus, several others have been started and will persist.

University Architect Jim Miller wrote in an email that aside from the larger, noisier projects, there are several smaller ones being conducted.

"Our office currently is managing over 50 active design and construction projects on the Homewood campus," he wrote. "A few of the larger ones include the Brody Learning Commons, WSE's Institute for Nano-Bio-technology, Shaffer Hall Lobby, Campus Restroom Upgrades, Bloomberg Hall Server Room Cluster, Health and Counseling Center and the Shriver Hall Main Entrance."

For the most part, projects are delivered on schedule, Miller wrote. The Shriver steps project, for example, began after Commencement 2010 and is scheduled to conclude in October. The contractor is ahead of schedule.

During the construction of the Learning Commons, a popular short-cut to Lower Quad through Maryland Hall is unavailable. Senior Maria Granato often took the short cut and finds that the most cumbersome issue with the construction.

"I haven't run into any noise," Granato said. "The only thing that has gotten in my way is cutting through Maryland (to get to Lower Quad), I used to cut through that a lot. Other than that, the construction is not really blocking anything for me."

Senior Gustavo Barcena, like Granato, has had his usual path obstructed.

"The construction affects me pretty much everyday when I walk around Maryland instead of through the path I used to go through," he said. "But, I've not heard any of the noise."

Weather can also play a factor in the duration of the project. Baltimore's mild winters, however, do not affect projects much.

"We do build in contingencies and procedures for weather," wrote Miller. "One example was during the construction of the Co-generation facility last winter we enclosed the scaffolding around the building in plastic, provided temporary heat to keep the space above freezing and incorporated cold-weather construction techniques to allow us to continue laying the masonry walls."

The one exception to the weather component, however, was the blizzard last February.

A lot of what goes into planning is a result of experience with past projects.

"We rely on the experience and expertise of the entire team to formulate schedules that typically do include some float time to accommodate surprises," Miller wrote. "However, given that every project is unique in terms of its design, site, purpose, etc. there are often issues that arise that can delay completion."

Miller provides the example of the construction of Charles Commons to illustrate the planning process and keeping a project on track despite difficulties.

"For instance, when we built

Charles Commons, in spite of having done exploratory site investigations, we encountered a lot of rock, at higher elevations than anticipated resulting in the excavation work taking longer than planned," he wrote. "Fortunately, our concrete contractor was able to accelerate their work to make up most of the lost time."

The Brody Learning Commons, for example, proves a precarious project because of its location on a sloping site, as well as being so close to the MSE Library. Miller wrote that despite all the research one could do, there are still some unforeseen difficulties that could pop up.

"No one has ever added an addition to the MSEL on a sloping site that is laced with campus utilities and surrounded by pedestrian walkways and loading docks," Miller wrote. "So you do as much research as you can to mitigate risk then deal with unknown issues as they arise during construction."

Despite the margin for error, Miller wrote that the Learning Commons project is slated to be finished in the summer of 2012. The official opening will be in the fall of 2012, for use in the 2012-2013 school year. But until it is finished, the construction has proved a hassle to navigate for some.

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Second year of First Night tradition brings together undergrads

Candle lighting ceremony highlighted the evening

By WANG JAE RHEE
News & Features Editor

Approximately 1,100 under- and upperclassmen gathered on the Lower Quad on Monday to celebrate First Night, the annual ceremony of officially inducting freshmen into the student body.

The event, held on the evening of the first day of school, hence its name, began with speeches by four members of the Student Government Association, followed by a candle-lighting ritual and individual class parties held at different locations on-campus.

As the first to stand before the crowd, Mark Dirzulaitis, the president of SGA, offered words of welcome and good will to the newly-enrolled class of 2014.

"I wanted to give a warm welcome to the freshmen," Dirzulaitis said later, recalling his time at the podium.

"They've probably already been welcomed by faculty members and RAs; I think it was about time they were welcomed by the rest of the school."

Dirzulaitis' remarks were followed by those of Alexandra Larsen, president of the sophomore class. In her speech, she focused on giving advice to the freshman class based on her personal experience.

"When I thinking about what to talk about up there, I asked myself, 'What did I wish I had known? If I really cared, if this was my best friend, what would I tell her? How could I best help her adjust to Hopkins?' I really wrote the speech from my heart," Larsen said.

The result was a string of genuine words of wisdom aimed to get the freshmen off to a successful start at Hopkins.

Her first point of advice concerned the importance of keeping up the academic rigor freshmen so easily lose in their first semester at Hopkins, due to covered grades.

She explained that becoming academically lethargic in during that time can be more damaging than it seems.

The emotional stress of going from an A student to a C student because of covered grades is a risk not worth taking," she said in her speech.

Larsen's second point of advice to the freshman class was that of maintaining good health, especially at a time when partying and having fun might seem more appealing than eating and sleeping well.

"It is important to stay healthy and strong in college," she said. "There's so much to do, so much to take advantage of, but you can't do anything when you're sick. Keep good



MORGAN YANG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Upperclassmen pass down the flame to their freshman heirs in the ceremony that took place last week on the Lower Quad.

studying and sleeping habits, so you can do everything you want to do."

At the end of each class president's speech, the corresponding class lit up their candles, which were handed out earlier.

When all of the upperclassmen's candles were lit, the SGA president gave the cue for the upperclassmen to pass on the flame

dark, and it's just a beautiful experience, and you're here, you're part of the experience," she explained.

"I feel like it provides an opportunity for upperclassmen to really make the freshmen feel part of the student body," Navarre said.

"I think this year's First Night ceremony was very successful. It



MORGAN YANG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Students disperse to their respective class parties after the all-inclusive First Night ceremony.

to the freshmen.

The lights multiplied swiftly in the dark, and soon hundreds of lights shone brightly.

To add to the experience, the Gilman Tower bells rang throughout the duration of the candle-lighting ceremony.

When all candles were lit, the students raised them in unison and let out a cheer.

"The candles represent the unity of the student body," Rachel Navarre, coordinator of campus programming in the Office of Student Life, said.

"The Gilman Tower bells are ringing, there are hundreds of bright candles brimming in the

has grown into an integral part of the Hopkins tradition," she added.

And indeed it has. Since its inception last year, First Night has grown in size and, more importantly, is slowly being recognized as a tradition.

"I think it's a great tradition. It's a lovely reception, welcoming freshmen into your community like that," Larsen said.

"The candles being lit and raised up like that, it gives you pride that you go to Hopkins."

"It's hard to start tradition, but the First Night ceremony is picking up speed," Dirzulaitis com-

mented.

"It's become a big event that everyone enjoys, an event through which everyone can kick off the year together. Keep the sentiment that we have this year, and we're moving in the right direction."

That sentiment of acceptance as a tradition was definitely shared by the upperclassmen.

Senior Aliyah Sanders said that she had a good time at First Night.

"It was good to see everyone again at one place," she said.

"Also, the event in general was run pretty well. Everyone got candles, and it was cool to see the flames being passed," she added.

Junior Yang Bai agreed.

"[First Night] is definitely taking its place as a tradition, a way to embrace the freshman class," he said.

"It was an amazing experience, and I hope future generations can share it with us."

But arguably the students most affected by the ceremony were the freshmen.

"It was nice to have everyone at once, at the start of the semester," freshman Clea Baumhofer said.

"All the upperclassmen were there. All the freshmen were there. It was very intimate."

For some freshmen, First Night really made them feel part of the community.

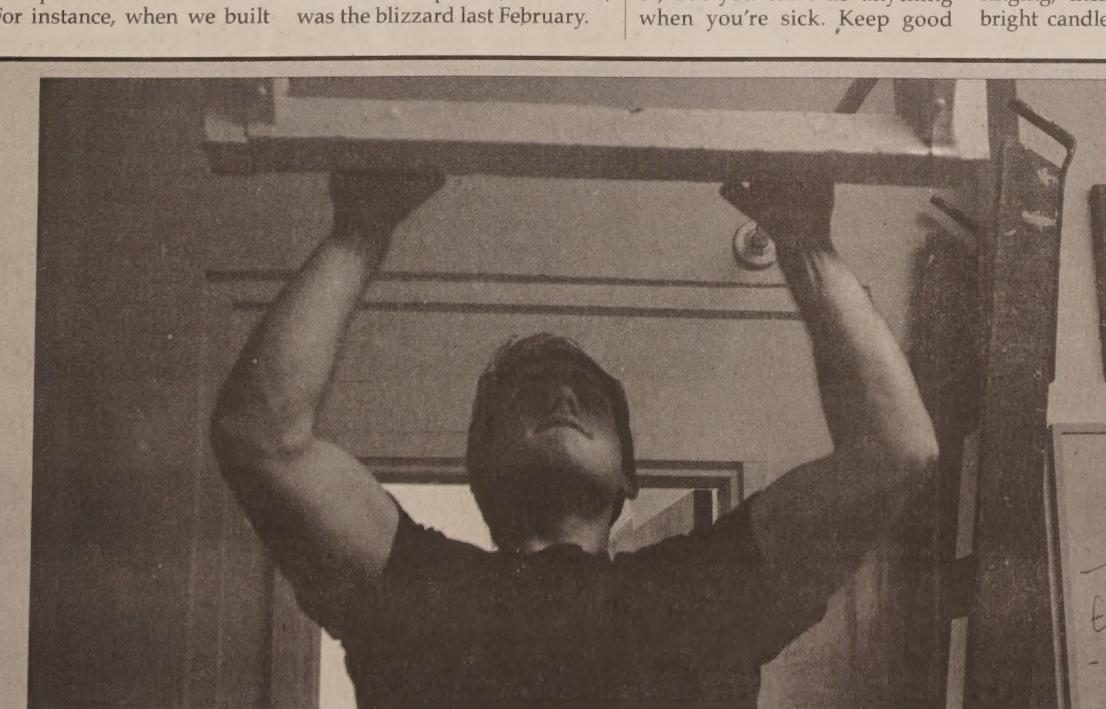
"It made it official that we were starting at Hopkins," freshman Jackie Heath said.

"There was a lot of unity throughout all the grades; I felt part of the student body."

Senior Aliyah Sanders was uncertain about the event itself, but spoke positively of the endeavor to make new traditions for students.

"I don't think it's the most effective way... but I do think it's good that Hopkins is creating a tradition," she said.

Overall, First Night seems to be becoming a strong new tradition.



The Johns Hopkins News-Letter . . .

Former Israeli Air Force member takes on Homewood, United States

By DANA VOKOLOS
For The News-Letter

It goes without saying that the students at Hopkins are extraordinarily talented and unique.

This year, the freshman class is no exception.

The 1,249 members of the Class of 2014 were selected from a record applicant pool of 18,455 high school seniors.

One of them, however, is not a high school senior.

At 21 years old, Isaac Brooks is an international student from Haifa, Israel and is one of the oldest members of the freshman class. Although Brooks was born in Los Angeles, he moved to Israel with his family at the age of six.

"We were a completely American family," Brooks said. "My dad got a job in Israel so we moved there."

Shortly before coming to Hopkins, Brooks was still enlisted in the Israeli Defense Force (IDF).

It wasn't until two weeks before move-in that he got out.

"I got out of the army in August, two weeks before coming to Hopkins," he explains. "I was scheduled to get out in early October, but got it shortened so that I could come here."

When most Hopkins freshman were attending their sophomore year of high school and preparing for to take the SATs three years ago, Brooks was working as a ground mechanic for light transport airplanes in the Israeli Air Force.

He graduated from high school in July 2007 and a month later began his pre-army course for Israel's draft.

From August to October, Brooks learned the basics of light transport airplane maintenance: fueling airplanes, doing weekly inspections, and assisting the pilots.

Some of his other responsibilities included washing the airplanes once a month, fixing minor mechanical problems, and organizing the work of other various departments that needed to work on the airplanes.

In December of that year, he officially entered the army and went through four weeks of basic training.

From there, Brooks was assigned to his base and the line of "Kukia" (cuckoo) airplanes.

For Brooks, the last three years have been quite eventful and not always the easiest.

Beginning in June 2009, Brooks began taking commanding responsibilities within his line and was in charge of 12 soldiers and seven airplanes.

"I was trying to push myself towards being a commander," Brooks said.

"I had a lot of trouble getting it approved, and despite acting as a commander from around October of that year, I didn't become one officially until March."

He eventually became responsible for up to 30 airplanes and anywhere between six and 20 soldiers per shift.

As commander, Brooks underwent several weeks of intensive work. One of his most memorable experiences was operation Cast Lead in December of 2008.

"The first day of operation

Cast Lead I worked 24 hours straight alongside a commander who was leaving the army after being there for eight years," he recounts.

"He said it was really nice to finish with such a burst of energy."

Brooks's typical day was very regimented and controlled, he said.

"I would wake up most days at 4:30 a.m. to work until midnight and sometimes, 24 hours straight," he said.

"Once a month I would spend a week averaging an hour of sleep during the night shift, working from 9:30 p.m. until around 9 a.m."

Interestingly, Brooks also explained that almost a third of all aircraft mechanics leave the army with some hearing damage from the planes.

To protect against hearing damage, Brooks routinely wore earplugs to counteract against the high intensity noise levels.

Other precautionary steps that were taken involved the maintenance uniforms: in order to prevent buttons from falling into the airplane engines, Brooks's maintenance overalls only had zippers.

His daily outfit also came with a hat due to working in the hot sun.

When asked if he would do it all over again, Brooks does not hesitate to answer.

"Yes," he said. "I think the gap in between high school and



COURTESY OF ISAAC BROOKS

Freshman Isaac Brooks, center, spent three years after high school in the Israeli Air Force. Eventually, he took on the responsibilities of a commander.

college and the army especially has really helped me. It teaches you discipline. In the army you could get detention if you messed up."

He mentions that once he got a 14 day confinement to the base for falling asleep on guard duty. Here you can fail a class — which might even be worse!"

In regards to choosing a university, Brooks said that he wanted a place that would provide an well-rounded liberal arts education.

"I chose Hopkins because it had all the qualities I was looking for in a school," he said.

"I chose to study in the Unit-

ed States because I was attracted to the idea of a liberal arts education. In Israel especially, but also in a lot of European countries, you don't have that option and that did not appeal to me at all. I want to major in Philosophy but still have the opportunity to take some science and math courses."

In terms of adjusting, Brooks seems to be doing just fine.

This semester, he is taking courses like Introduction to Greek Philosophy, Arabic, and Great Books.

In terms of his extracurricular activities, Brooks has joined Hopkins Hillel and is strongly considering joining the Chess Club.

He's also interested in various campus publications.

For Brooks, Johns Hopkins has already exceeded his expectations in the very first week.

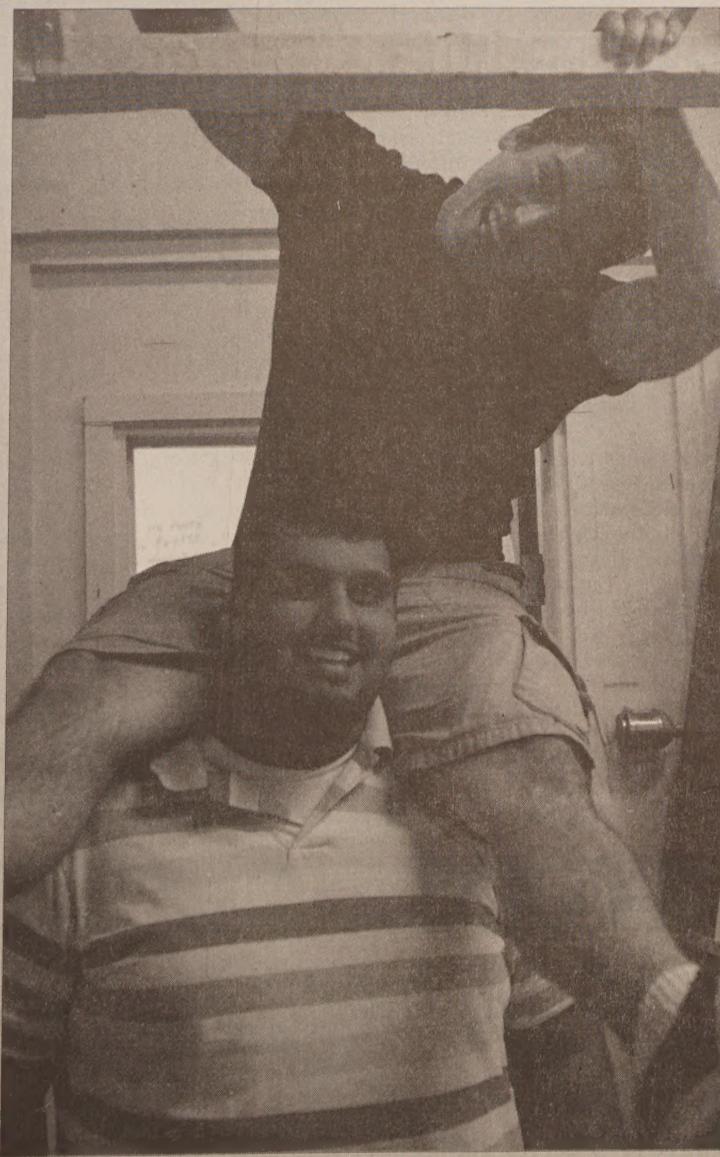
"People are really nice, and we get Sundays off," he said.

"The food at the FFC is incredible compared to army cafeteria food, and the rooms designed for two students to live in would hold eight in the army."

When asked about his plans after Hopkins, Brooks explained that he is just keeping his options open right now.

"That's a good question," he said. "Talk to me in four years — I have no idea!"

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SAC Fair: Student groups showcase variety

By ERICH REIMER
For The News-Letter

Last Friday, hundreds of JHU students flooded the Ralph S. O'Conor Recreation Center for JHU's annual Student Activities Fair, hosted by the Office of Student Life.

According to the Office of the Dean of Student Life, there were over 220 clubs in attendance, 20 more than last year, and roughly 2,000 students, which is generally the same as in past years.

Students present at the event generally responded positively, although some felt overwhelmed.

"There's lots of chaos. It's kind of intimidating, but it's a good thing," freshman Matt Stewart said.

Freshman Jasmine Wang said it was "really diverse".

Kayla Pavlos, another freshman, agreed, saying there were "a lot of options, a lot of diversity." Although she said she "signed up for a lot [of clubs], I'll probably be committed to just a couple".

Fellow freshman Dan Lassman described it as "overwhelming, so many clubs to join" and when asked about how many clubs he signed up for and would

join, responded "I don't know, too many to count . . . I'll probably join 5 to 6."

According to Jason Heiserman, Director of Student Activities at the Office of the Dean of Student Life and also a part-time lecturer at the Center for Leadership Education, "We absolutely believe it was a success. I have heard from many groups that their lists of interested students were extremely long."

Student groups present at the fair generally had positive opinions of the way the fair was run, although many would have preferred more space. Stephanie Lin, a senior and President of the Taiwanese American Students Association, described this year's club fair as "the same" as last years.

Junior Oren Pollack of the Jewish Students Association said "It's a nice tradition... [but] there could be more space."

Another junior, Danny Kaplan of JHU Quidditch said it was a "great time".

"We continue to try to accommodate more and more groups, but also have to be sensitive to the fact that the Recreation Center can only hold so many people. It was definitely packed in there,"

Heiserman said.

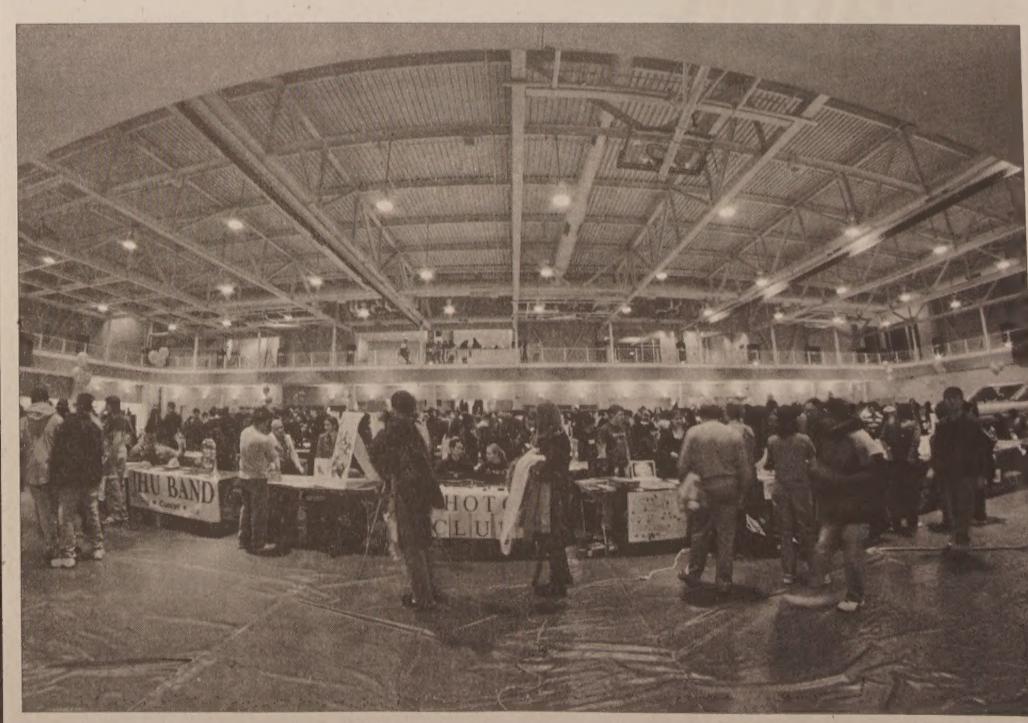
However in regards to funding from the Office of Student Life student groups were more mixed.

"We didn't get enough funding this year and are very upset. We're going to do fundraising on our own," Lin said, adding that one way the Office of Student Life could improve this situation is by having "more funding and grants we can apply for."

However, senior Chelsea Gonzales of La Organizacion Latina Estudiantil(OLE) said that their group got "good funding", as did junior Lena Saleh of the Arab Student Union, who said they got "a lot of funding."

"The budget is a bit too complicated to explain in a short answer, but I can say that the amount has stayed consistent over the past few years. This year, we had roughly 80 groups apply for annual budgets and the majority of them received exactly or close to what they asked for," Heiserman said.

Overall, students found the fair to be a rewarding and fascinating experience. Junior Andrew Hall of Canadians at JHU, said "I like the tradition of it . . . it's all good."



MORGAN YANG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

This year's Student Activities Fair saw the participation of 200 clubs, an increase of 20 over last year's fair.

Philosophy professor discusses draw of subject, lecturing on bioethics

By RACHEL WITKIN
For The News-Letter

Philosophy is for those who are not afraid to think and question how the mind works, and consider what is ethically right and wrong.

Professor Hilary Bok, the Henry R. Luce Professor of Bioethics and Moral Theory, is not afraid to do either. Bok, originally from outside of Boston, received her undergraduate degree in philosophy from Princeton, and her Ph.D from Harvard.

She has taught many classes relating to ethics, such as Intro to Moral Philosophy, Intro to Bioethics, Addiction, Depression, and the Self, a class about the moral status of animals, and a graduate seminar on Kant's Moral Theory.

Bok is the author of *Freedom and Responsibility*, and has written papers about stem cell research. She is currently working on a project about the implications of neuroscience on moral responsibility. She sat down recently to talk with *The News-Letter* about her passion with philosophy, especially bioethics.

The News-Letter (N-L): When did you first get interested in philosophy?

Hilary Bok (HB): Well, my mother's a philosopher. But oddly, that didn't make me interested in philosophy. That made me think that philosophy was taken, that it was sort of hers. It never occurred to me that I would actually do it, until I took a philosophy class my sophomore year.

I took it in part because it was the most interesting sounding class that filled a hole in my schedule and allowed me to sleep late. So then, about the second week into the class, I was just in love. I had never thought it was a subject I might do. It was always something she did. But once I was in the class I decided that this was what I love, and that was that.

N-L: When did you get interested in bioethics?

HB: I've always been interested in bioethics, I didn't start working on it until I came here, in part because, before I was here, I was at Pomona, a liberal arts college in California. And if you're at a liberal arts college, that means it doesn't have a medical school in the same town or community.

That means that if you do bioethics, you are mostly sort of imagining what kinds of conflicts you think doctors might face, and imagining what they might do as a result. And I always thought, that's a recipe for doing very bad work if you don't really know what you're talking about.

While I was interested in bioethics, as long as I was at Pomona, I thought that that's not the sort of thing I would be likely to be any good at doing, just because I didn't have actual doctors there. I didn't have a hospital that was part of my university.

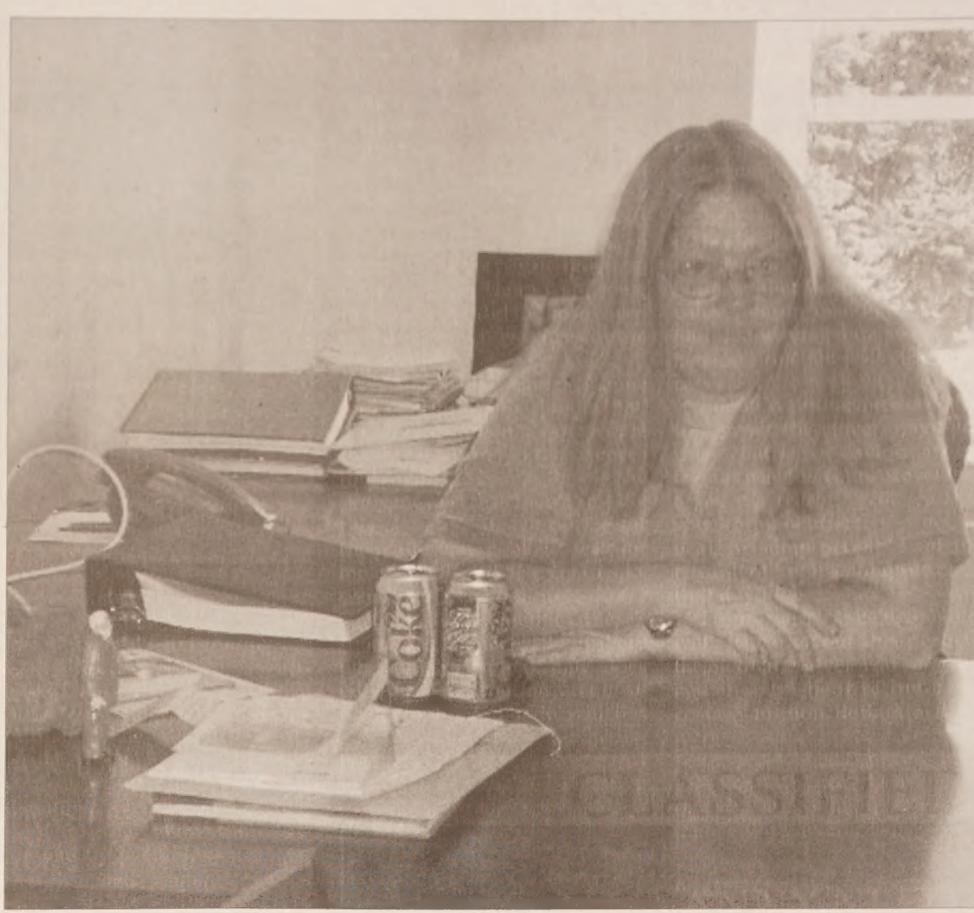
I could, of course, have walked into the local hospital, just grabbed a doctor, and said "Hello, doctor, why don't you talk to me about all your moral problems?", but that seemed rude. There weren't any doctors who were a part of our community back at Pomona which is why I didn't really try to do bioethics. It's kind of like studying rhinoceroses when you live in America. You could, but you'd be so likely to do it badly because there aren't any here.

N-L: So is that what brought you to Hopkins?

HB: What brought me to Hopkins was that they acquired funding for a professor to teach bioethics. So they approached me asking would you be interested in teaching bioethics despite the fact that you've never done it before, and I said yes.

N-L: What would you say you love most about bioethics?

HB: So what I love most about ethics in general, is the way that it allows me to be both completely abstract and practical. I have this sort of "mathy" part of my head, which loves abstract



COURTESY OF RACHEL WITKIN

Professor Hilary Bok, author of *Freedom and Responsibility*, teaches Bioethics, as well as several other courses in the Philosophy Department.

problems, but I also love being incredibly practical. So doing chess problems would engage the same part of my mind, but it would have no practical use of any kind and would therefore get boring to me at a certain point.

What I love about ethics is that I get to do problems that are much more interesting but in the same vein as chess problems, that also have immense practical import. What I love about bioethics is that on the one hand it's, if anything, even more practical.

In the 2004 presidential campaign, I wrote large parts of one candidate's stem cell position paper. As a Philosophy Ph.D it nev-

er occurred to me that I'd write a position paper for anybody, because why would anybody want a philosopher to write their position paper? There's also the fact that you find out about all these fascinating things that doctors are doing, these strange new technologies, that, at least to me, not being myself a physician, seem to me like science fiction all the time. Except that instead of science fiction, with which you have to sort of go, "why am I reading this science fiction when I could be reading something true," this is true. And you learn about this stuff and it raises moral conundrums. You get to think about how to answer them, and it's just endlessly fascinating.

N-L: Bioethics seems to be one of those not-philosophy course philosophy courses, meaning that there are a variety of grade levels and majors that take it. Why do you think that is?

HB: I think that there are people who end up majoring in philosophy who got into it through bioethics. But it's an introductory class in the same way that Philosophical Classics or Introduction to Moral Philosophy are all introductory classes. Bioethics probably draws a larger group of people, I assume, because it draws a lot of pre-meds. There are just a whole lot of undergraduates at Hopkins who are pre-med.

When I was an undergraduate, we also had distribution requirements, and for me, the problem one was science. And I took two geology courses, in which I had very little independent interest. There were some fun things we did in those classes, but mostly it was just for the requirement.

So one of the things I hope for in teaching this class is that, if there are pre-meds or people that are majoring in the sciences for whom the humanities is the problem one that they can take this class and it will not be for them the way geology was for me, like "Oh god, I've got to take some class, why not this."

While with bioethics there's something that actually ties into what you're doing, and does what a distribution requirement is supposed to do, which is

teach you that there are ways of making arguments that are not the same as the ones that you're most familiar with in your major, and to appreciate what those arguments can do.

So sometimes I find that, especially with people who have had really no exposure to philosophy, they will just be puzzled in that class by the idea that there are right and wrong answers to questions, or might be even though there are no lab notebooks.

I want them to see why that's not an insuperable objection, why it doesn't follow from the absence of carefully controlled experiments that all philosophers do is just hand-waving. Because that's what I think a distribution requirement ought to be about.

I assume that one reason a lot of people take it is partly because it looks good on a medical school application and partly because they have humanities distribution requirements, and because this, unlike many courses, has some actual relevance to their major.

N-L: What do you think is one of the most controversial issues in bioethics, or, which do you find to be the most interesting to meditate on? Why?

HB: There are a lot of controversial issues associated with, for instance, health care reform. Should the government have any role at all in denying care? Presumably, it has to, because I would not want the government to be on the hook for, for instance, a therapy that one doctor on Earth thought was effective.

Suppose that I decided for some wacky reason that, I'm a doctor, and that waving a daisy in your general direction will cure your cancer.

I don't want for me to be able to charge the government for this. That is, of course, an extreme case. But there are a lot of cases where the evidence that something is effective is equivocal, or some people want the treatment but it's not quite clear that it works.

From there you turn into, well, it works, but this particular medicine gives you on average an extra hour of life but it costs 5 million dollars a dose,

is it worth it? You can see that there's a spectrum that moves from something like "appendectomy saves your life for cheap" to "5 million of dollars a dose for an extra hour of life" and from there to "well it's not quite clear if it gives you anything, the data is mixed," to me waving a daisy in your general direction. If the government is going to be reimbursing anything, it has to decide where on that spectrum it's going to cut things off.

I want it to cut things off somewhere because I don't want the daisy. On the other hand, trying to do that at all gets you into the territory where people will accuse you of favoring death panels, regardless of whether or not that's true. And that makes things very controversial. There are a number of incredibly controversial areas of health care reform, including the treatment of animals, physician-assisted suicide, stem cells, abortion, cloning. I also think the implications of neuroscience for morality and moral responsibility is very interesting.

N-L: Is there anything you're interested in working on right now, in terms of publishing or course development?

HB: Well, I'm working on a project with a couple of other people about the implications of neuroscience for moral responsibility and self-governance.

N-L: Do you have a class that's a standout favorite?

HB: No, because I actually don't teach classes that I don't really want to teach. I love teaching bioethics (the introductory class) just because I love when people sort of see what philosophy is all about, especially with people in that class who maybe haven't taken philosophy in the past.

I love some of the upper-level courses just because I love the topics. I love Kant's moral theory. I think the status of animals is cool; how you try to figure out how you treat a being who has no autonomy and has no ability to sort of enter into understandings with you about know exactly what they're supposed to do, and how you're supposed to do things as a result.

But it's obviously somebody that you ought to treat morally. It isn't like a child, who will at some point grow up to be an adult, and you have to prepare it for that.

N-L: Is there any specific advice you'd give students?

HB: I think, especially, in today's job market, there's a tendency to major in something because it's useful.

As I look back, I majored in something I loved. And that was the right choice. Not just because you love it and you'll have fun, but also because you learn much, much more from doing something that you love.

If you love something, then you will plunge into it in a way you're unlikely to plunge into anything that you don't love. And if you plunge in it that way you will learn how to think clearly and deeply and well in a way that you won't if you don't. So not just because things are fun, but because you learn more. If you love something apparently impractical, do not dismiss the practical implications of just doing something you love.

I think that I would think that even if I hadn't ended up actually being gainfully employed in this discipline. But anyone to whom I might give this advice would point out that I might be biased by the fact that it worked out for me.

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Nanny needed in Northwest Baltimore/Pikesville area (exit 22 off 695) for 10 year old twins. Must have car. Mon-Thurs 4-9 Fri 3-6. References & good driving record required.

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IRONICALLY, THE CURRICULUM FOR A MASTER'S DEGREE IN SOCIAL WORK AT SUNY BINGHAMTON INCLUDED BLATANT VIOLATIONS OF ANDRE'S FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS.

All Andre Massena wanted out of SUNY-Binghamton was a master's degree – and the opportunity to express his opinions freely. He was denied both. When he publicly criticized his school for hiring a faculty member Andre believed to be responsible for social injustice, the Department of Social Work tried to have him expelled. So much for the First Amendment.

With FIRE's help, Andre graduated. But his case is just one of the many violations of student and faculty rights that FIRE sees every day at colleges across the country.

FIRE's Red Alert List

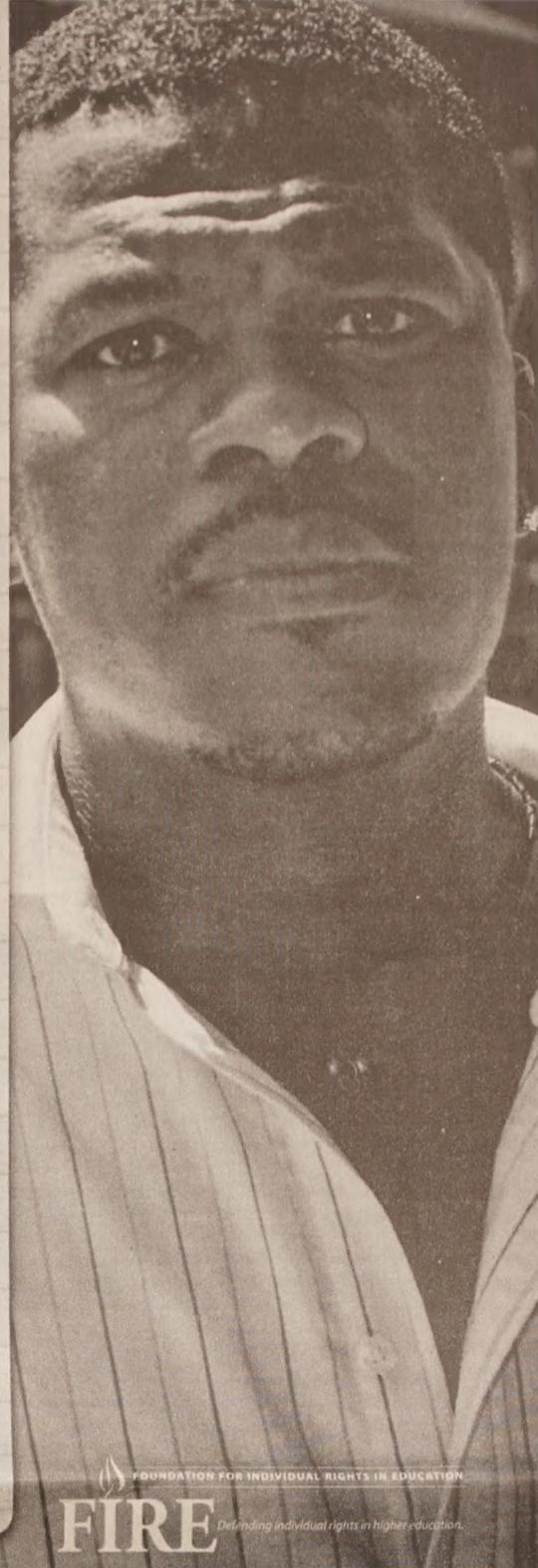
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Red Alert institutions have displayed a severe and ongoing disregard for the fundamental rights of their students and professors. They are the "worst of the worst" when it comes to liberty on campus. Think twice before applying to one of FIRE's Red Alert schools.

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THE 2010 CONSTITUTIONAL FORUM

MICHAEL J. KLARMAN
Kirkland and Ellis Professor Harvard Law School

"A SKEPTICAL VIEW OF CONSTITUTION WORSHIP"

September 16, 2010
8 P.M.

110 Hodson Hall / Homewood Campus

For more information email: constitution@jhu.edu

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Students show distaste for CPS system fee by starting online group

After being made to pay for access codes, a sophomore takes to Facebook to protest

SEE CPS, FROM A1

to raise awareness among the Deans, getting students together, with SGA as a platform, forming a coalition saying that students are against this change," she said. "Because since the school wants the CPS system as part of the curriculum, they should pay the cost and not direct it to students. If the school can start charging us \$35, they would soon be able to charge us even more. It's a slippery slope — they see that we are fine being charged, so that empowers them to keep on doing it."

Student opinions on the issue varied significantly, from people who believed it was unfair to those who believed it didn't really matter at all.

"Frankly I feel like people have blown it way out of proportion. Our tuition increases by huge sums every year and yet we're riled up about having to pay 35 dollars for a lifetime membership to CPS," said sophomore John Jiao.

Sophomore Andi Shau said part of the backlash is from the lack of notice given about the fees. Also, Shau feels that the clickers are often not fully utilized in most classes, and the codes therefore are a waste.

"It's frustrating because they didn't really explain it very well. We didn't really receive any warning, and on top of that, I think a lot of people are really confused about how much they need to pay per semester or for the lifetime," said Shau. "I think people are really unhappy that we're suddenly being charged for this, especially considering how much we pay for the clickers ... which in most classes are just a glorified and more advanced way of taking attendance."

According to Candice Dalrymple, Associate Dean of University Libraries and Director of the Center for Educational Resources, this fall over 19 faculty members are using the clicker system, "impacting over 2,500 students."

Describing the long history of the use of the CPS at Hopkins, Dalrymple said, "The idea was to enable more interactivity between

just resigned to having to pay for the codes, cause I don't really think it's gonna change. Whatever entity is in charge of the codes just wants to make more money. Yet another entry in the never-ending list of college expenditures."

XiXi Xu, a sophomore, on the other hand, thinks the anger over the fees is pointless because most people have already swallowed the \$35 lifetime membership fee.

"What's the point ... half of people on campus have already bought the lifelong one ... I think a lot of people don't care anymore," said Xu.

students and faculty, especially in large lecture courses. In the beginning, the pilot was small so we could understand the system's impact on learning before it expanded to many courses.

"To focus the pilot on education, rather than on administrative issues like fees for registration codes, the Dean's Office of the Krieger School, where all clicker courses were offered in the pilot phase, underwrote the fees for each student's code ... The School never purchased the actual units used by students; it only underwrote the registration codes that permit the system to track student responses accurately and securely."

Describing the reasons for the sudden increase in fees, Dalrymple said, "With clicker use spreading fast, the cost of the registration codes was becoming significant. And because not all students are enrolled in clicker-enhanced courses, it is not appropriate for the Dean's Office to underwrite clicker registration



MORGAN YANG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Clickers are often used in lecture-style classes to take attendance and administer quizzes.

codes for only part of the student population. It's an equity issue — the Dean's Office would not be justified in underwriting the cost of some students' textbooks, for example, but not others.

"No one wants to see increases in education fees, but digital resources are enriching learning in nearly all disciplines. The type of fee required for clicker use is comparable to fees for online re-

sources associated with many of the textbooks selected for JHU courses. Online resources require constant updating, and separate fees make resources like this possible."

Regarding the future of CPS fees at Hopkins, "As far as I know, however, the transition to student support of their own registration codes is permanent," Dalrymple said.

SECURITY ALERTS

Burglary

100 Block of West University Pkwy.

August 27, between 9:15 PM and 11:20 PM

A laptop computer, digital camera and cash were stolen from a senior undergraduate's residence. Entry appears to have been gained through the window on the first floor. Baltimore Police responded, investigation continuing.

Arrest

3000 Block of Lovegrove St.

August 27 at 11:55 AM

A campus bike patrol officer reported a suspicious person in the alley. Baltimore police responded and arrested him on an outstanding warrant and for violation of parole.

Theft (Property Recovered)

4 West University Pkwy., Inn at the Colonnade

September 5, 5:30 AM

A hotel employee's unattended purse was taken from the lobby by an unknown male. Police responded, a campus officer found the handbag on the tennis court later that morning and returned it to its owner.

Trespass Warning

3301 North Charles St., Charles Commons

September 4, 9:13 PM

A campus officer observed a male enter the main door by tailgating someone in front of him. The officer questioned the male who initially claimed a resident was coming down to meet him but then admitted that no one was coming to meet him and that he had no reason to enter. A trespass warning was issued.

Suspicious Person

100 Block of West University Pkwy., The Carolina Apts.

September 5, 2:28 AM

A graduate student saw an unknown male peering into his ground floor window. The subject fled when the student turned the lights on. Campus officers and City police responded but did not find any evidence.

Assault

3700 North Charles St., The Northway

September 8

A Hopkins undergrad was riding the elevator up to her apartment with an unknown male when the male inappropriately touched the undergraduate. Upon reaching the sixth floor, the male then ran from the elevator to the stairwell and fled. Police have identified the suspect as a black male, approximately 40 years old, 6 feet tall, 170-190 pounds with no facial hair. Investigation continuing.

Theft Report Follow-Up

Recreation Center

August 30, 4:00 PM

A junior reported that her wallet had been stolen from a storage cubby. On September 1, investigation revealed that the student had simply left her wallet at home, and that no theft had taken place.

Theft

Mudd Hall

September 2, between 3:00 PM and 5:00 PM

An undergraduate's wallet was taken from his backpack. Evidence that his credit card was used at several off-campus locations. Investigation continuing.

Theft

3100 Block of St. Paul St., Ajumma Cuisine

September 2, 5:30 PM

A JHU senior's laptop, wallet, cell phone, and MP3 player was taken from the floor while he was ordering his food. Police responded, investigation continuing.

Test of the Johns Hopkins Emergency Alert scheduled for Tuesday Sept. 14

Homewood campus Safety and Security will conduct a test of the campus siren/public address system and the Johns Hopkins Emergency Alerts text messaging system at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, September 14, 2010.

The test will be a full-scale simultaneous activation of both systems.

The siren/PA system, which is activated by radio signal from the Homewood Communications Center, is composed of speakers on Garland Hall, Whitehead Hall and the O'Connor Recreation Center.

The sirens will simultaneously sound the alert tone and then sequentially broadcast the voice message, announcing,

"This is a test of the Homewood campus emergency warning system."

Those who have subscribed to the text message alert system will receive a brief message that reads, "This is a test of the Johns Hopkins Homewood Emergency Alert text message system. There is NO emergency at this time."

Shortly after the public ad-

dress broadcast, an all-clear alert tone will sound, followed by the message saying, in part, "This has been a test of the Homewood campus emergency warning system."

Had there been an actual emergency, you would have been given specific instructions on what to do."

Because the public address system incorporates a silent self-test feature that will exercise each module on a weekly basis, Campus Safety and Security will schedule "live" tests only three times a year.

The main purpose of the exercise is to familiarize the Homewood community with the sound of the system.

the exercise is to familiarize the Homewood community with the sound of the system.

Except for these periodic tests, the system will be used only in the event of an incident or situation that presents a significant threat to the lives or safety of the campus community.

This announcement was published at the request of Campus Safety and Security.

CORRECTIONS

In the September 2 issue of *The Cover-Letter*, the article on page 5, "From MSE to FFC: Mastering Hopkins Lingo," one of the terms, "HelWell," stated that The Student Health and Wellness Center moved from near the FFC to the Homewood apartments.

This move will not take place until next year. At present, the Center is located near the FFC, by AMR II.

In the same article, the term "Walk of Shame" no longer has a meaning at Hopkins, as the Hut is no longer open 24 hours, and the library maintains round-the-clock operation.

For more explanation on the change in hours of the two, please turn attention to A8.

The News-Letter regrets these errors.

NEWS & FEATURES

Hopkins News in Brief

School of Nursing admits largest class since inception

This year, the Hopkins School of Nursing admitted its largest number of incoming students this year since its founding in 1984.

The school admitted a total of 775 students, also admitting 154 baccalaureate students, another a record number for the school.

The school's baccalaureate program enrolls students entering their junior year who do not have a bachelor's degree as well as students interested in pursuing a second bachelor's degree.

76 percent of the Class of 2012, 118 students, already held a baccalaureate degree upon entering.

This year's incoming class was also the most diverse the school has seen.

Outreach workers advocate violence prevention

A recent study by the Bloomberg School of Public Health found that street outreach workers provide an effective way of delivering violence prevention and intervention methods.

This study could lead to furthering the street outreach programs that already exist in Baltimore. The method that street outreach workers use usually involves engaging gang leaders in conflict mediation and organizing a peace council.

Researchers at the School of Public Health hope to specifically target youth violence with this method.

Hopkins Nano-BioTechnology receive five year grant

The NanoBioTechnology center at the Hopkins Medical Institute received a \$13.6 million grant for a duration of five years from the National Cancer Institute to establish a Center of Cancer Nanotechnology Excellence.

This center will unite a diverse team of scientists, engineers and physicians to develop nanotechnology-based cancer treatment and diagnostic strategies.

Researchers hope to use the grant to further projects that will look for methods to screen body fluids for indications of cancer as well as projects that will investigate medication-delivering methods for lung cancer tissues.

Hopkins physician receives prestigious city award

Medical director of Access Partnership at the JHU Hospital Barbara Cook has been recognized by Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake for the Dr. Sebastian Russo Memorial Award.

The award recognizes health care providers who have made significant contributions and who have shown great dedication to service for low-income individuals and families in Baltimore.

Cook has worked with Access Partnership to provide free specialty care access to those who are uninsured and live in the neighborhoods surrounding the medical campus.

Cook also established the first Hispanic Clinic at the East Baltimore Medical Center.



COURTESY OF HOPKINSMEDICINE.ORG

Hopkins doctor Barbara Cook won an award for her work with low-income individuals

BME doctoral candidates named Siebel Scholars

Five BME doctoral candidates have been named 2011 Siebel Scholars.

The Siebel Scholars program recognizes outstanding students at top business and computer science graduate schools.

The scholars are selected for their academic achievement, and once selected, they will advise the Siebel Foundation in developing innovative programs.

The BME scholars chosen to represent Hopkins are Vikram Aggarwal, Ivy Dick, Kelvin Liu, Prashant Mali and Ying-Ying Wang.

Jhpiego to host documentary directed by Christy Turlington

The international health organization Jhpiego is set to host the Baltimore premiere of supermodel Christy Turlington's soon-to-be-released documentary, *No Woman No Cry*.

Turlington's film focuses on the challenges faced by women in at-risk pregnancies.

The screening is scheduled for October 25 at 7PM at MICA's Brown Center. Turlington, who will be present, plans to answer questions afterwards.

—Hopkins briefs by Sarah Tan

Baltimore News in Brief

City campaign to address health of residents

At a news conference on Tuesday, Stephanie Rawlings-Blake discussed plans to offer a series of free health fairs later this month as part of her Healthy City Days public health awareness campaign.

Rawlings-Blake said that the series is intended to overcome the disparities in health care among Baltimore City residents.

The campaign will offer free blood-pressure screenings, walks and a workout with Ray Rice of the Ravens.

Screenings will occur at branches of the Enoch Pratt Free Library, and healthy cooking demonstrations will be given at City Hall.

The events are funded by a \$75,000 donation from CareFirst Blue Cross Blue Shield.

Large-scale fire sets off alarms on Calhoun Street

This Wednesday, three rowhouses on the 1300 block of North Calhoun Street in West Baltimore caught fire, setting off four alarms and calling about 95 firefighters to the scene. Two of the rowhouses were vacant, but the third had residents, though the exact number was not specified. Five rowhouses across the street also caught fire, though they were vacant as well.

West Virginian killed in Southwest Baltimore

Last Tuesday night, a 35-year-old man from West Virginia was fatally shot at the 800 block of Al-

lendale Street in Southwest Baltimore. Police allege that the man was involved in a drug transaction at the time of his shooting. Police have not yet identified the man but say he was a resident of Elkins, W.Va.

Director of Baltimore School for the Arts to leave school at end of year

The director of the Baltimore School for the Arts, Leslie Shepard, is set to leave her position at the school at the close of the academic school year. Shepard has worked at the school since its founding in 1979. She has been the director since 2001. A committee from the school will now begin a nationwide search for a new director who will be appointed by the end of the 2010-2011 school year.

While Shepard was director, the school became a nationally recognized arts high school, and it also underwent a \$30 million renovation. The school has also become a resource for culture and art for public school children in the city.

Stabbing near Maryland Avenue

Less than two months after the fatal stabbing of Hopkins researcher Stephen Pitcairn, Keith Counsell, 37, was stabbed on Monday afternoon at the 1500 block of Maryland Avenue while walking home from Penn Station. The suspects — two boys, 14, and a girl, 16 — are being held without bail. One of the boys stabbed the victim in the back after he said that he did not have change for a \$5 bill. City officials see this as another indication of the need to transform the neighborhood around North Avenue.

—College briefs by Peter Sicher



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Acid spill in South Baltimore buildings spur evacuation

After 55 gallons of extremely toxic acid spilled in two buildings in the 2900 block of Whittington Avenue in South Baltimore, 11 people who were in the buildings had to be evacuated. The spill occurred on Wednesday morning, but the fire department said that no one was injured. An investigation on the spill is still continuing and firemen have been working to neutralize the acid.

State medical panel suspends obstetrician license

The Maryland State medical panel suspended the license of an obstetrician who ran an abortion clinic this Wednesday. The obstetrician's clinic was responsible for the abortion-related injury of an 18-year-old woman. The woman, who underwent an abortion this past August, suffered from a perforated uterus. The doctor, George Shepard Jr., 88, as well as two other doctors, Nicola Riley, 45, and Steven Brigham, 54, were charged with having their medical licenses suspended.

North Baltimore complex to unify similar offices

KESWICK, FROM A1
for purchase. Another was the location.

"It's two buildings, next to the Rotunda," said University Spokesman Dennis O'Shea. "The prior owner of that complex, Zurich insurance company, had moved out, so it was vacant and on the market and certainly convenient. It's so close to one of our campuses. There will be work going on that is relevant to all the Johns Hopkins campuses."

Since purchase was confirmed, renovations have been going on to prepare the complex for tenants.

O'Shea said in an email that the original move-in date for tenants, a group of about 350 from Johns Hopkins Medicine offices of Patient Financial Services, was in October. The delay in occupancy was due to the group's own circumstances, independent of renovations.

As of September, renovations were both on time and on schedule, O'Shea wrote.

The driving force behind the purchase was to connect offices that would otherwise remain unconnected.

"It will evolve overtime, but primarily it is . . . not for academic uses," O'Shea said. "It's not for classes, it's not for faculty, it's not for research. It's for administrative uses, primarily what are called the business operations of the university and

information technology uses."

The University itself is not in sole ownership of the buildings. It partnered with Johns Hopkins Health System to buy them.

"(It will house offices of) not just of the university, but also of the health system. Johns Hopkins Health and the University have bought the building as fifty-fifty partners," said O'Shea.

O'Shea also said that having the offices will provide more collaboration, as well as other benefits.

"Johns Hopkins, both the university and health system, had a number of offices around the Baltimore area, in the city and the county, in rented space," O'Shea said.

"And having the purchase of the building will do two things: it will allow us to convert people from rented space to owned space, which should save money. And also it will bring together offices that do similar kinds of work and that need to be collaborating with each other and make it easier for them to collaborate."

The property itself is close to the Homewood campus, and is comprised of two buildings, each of which is less than 40 years old. Within the buildings, there are also classroom and meeting spaces, as well as a cafeteria.

The property also includes a large parking lot.

College News in Brief

California university upholds group's suspension

The University of California at Irvine has decided to uphold the suspension of the Muslim Student Union.

The group was suspended in June after member disrupted a lecture by Israeli Ambassador to the United States, Michael Oren. The disruption occurred in February.

The suspension of the group was originally going to last a year but after an appeal by the Muslim Student Union the suspension was shortened to the fall academic period. The Muslim Student Union must also complete 100 hours of community service before it can apply for reinstatement.

If it is reinstated, it will remain on probation for two years.

Florida school ordered to rehire fired janitors

A contractor working with Nova Southeastern University in Florida has been ordered to rehire three janitors who were fired over their participation in a 2007 union drive.

The decision, which was made by the National Labor Relations Board, also calls for the janitors to receive tens of thousands of dollars in back pay.

The firing of the janitors supporting union was seen as an act of retaliation, which violates federal law. According to the school, their current contractor, TCB Systems,

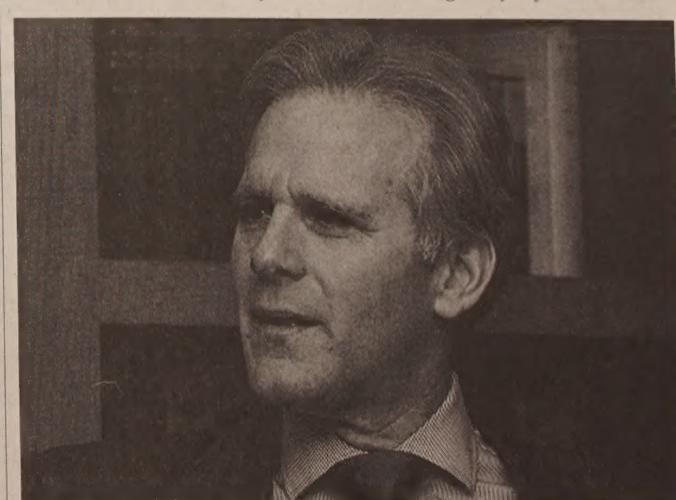
In June Philip Conroy was named as the next president of Quincy College, a public school in Massachusetts.

He withdrew this week, however.

He had yet to begin work. The school's board was unable to agree on the terms of Conroy's contract.

His appointment was made by a close vote, with many members of the board supporting a former board chairman instead.

—College briefs by Peter Sicher



COURTESY OF WWW.GEORGETOWN.EDU
Israeli Prime Minister Michael Oren, above, was giving a speech when it was interrupted by a Muslim group at the University of California at Irvine

NEWS & FEATURES

Students get involved in grassroots

SENATE, FROM A1
states and cities, rather than just throwing money at problems. I mean, the stimulus is set to end in about a year. The money will dry up."

He also emphasized the communication aspect of the campaign.

"Senator Conway has one annual meeting with her constituents, and it's not even open to the community. It's only open to community leaders," he said. "And she doesn't really have a website. [Torres] has a blog that we have maintained and updated almost every other day this summer."

Torres himself also spoke of his efforts to reach out to the community through his website and blog.

"It's a way for me to communicate with people and for people to communicate with me," he said. He also attributed some of his support among college students to his use of social media.

"With the social media and technology that we have today, we have no reason not to be transparent," he said.

However, he also discussed the importance of direct interaction with the community to govern effectively.

Social media can't be the only way to communicate. We have a diverse district, and there are people who might not have access. It's important to actually get out in the community."

This is a point that Teran also emphasized.

People shouldn't have to pick up the phone and begin calling around to try to find out what's going on with their representative.

—DANIEL TERAN

involved in the campaign because of his friendship with Teran.

Teran estimated that they have about 150 volunteers to man the polls for election day.

"People shouldn't have to pick up the phone and begin calling around to try to find out what's going on with their representative," Teran said. "They should be able to access that information."

Essentially, Teran said that he thinks Torres's accessibility "makes the job of students looking to organize [politically] easier."

Both he and Dworin mentioned Torres's attendance at the Tuesday Hopkins Democrats meeting as an example of his willingness to engage the students.

Dworin spoke a little about the process of organizing students for Torres.

"Hopkins has really gotten behind Torres," he said. "And it hasn't been through money. It's been through volunteering and giving time and effort."

He estimated that throughout the course of the campaign about 75 Hopkins students have contributed their efforts.

"Our recruiting has mostly been through personal efforts," he said. "We got some people through the Hopkins Democrats, some people from classes, some from listserves, like the political science department listserv. It's been a viral campaign in that way."

Dworin himself got involved in the campaign because of his friendship with Teran.

"Having served for three years in an elected office, I can say from experience that it can really make you more cynical," he said. "[Torres] doesn't have that. He is still more idealistic about what government can accomplish."

He thought that added to Torres's appeal to college students.

"I like to hope that most Hopkins students are a little more optimistic and idealistic than some of the rest of the community," he said. "If that is true, I think [Torres] will resonate with them."

Conway could not be reached for comment on the upcoming election as of press time.

"The difference between us and Senator Conway's volunteers is that she can afford to pay her volunteers at the polls," he said. "We can't afford to do that, but we have people volunteering who really believe in our ideology."

Torres also acknowledged that "We don't have the kind of war chest that [Senator Conway] does, so I've really been getting out and talking to one voter at a time, and I think I've really made some inroads. And students are going to be very important to me in this campaign."

Torres is a 30 year veteran of the Baltimore fire department, where he served as a spokesperson. Teran expressed the opinion that his visibility in that position also helped him build a support base.

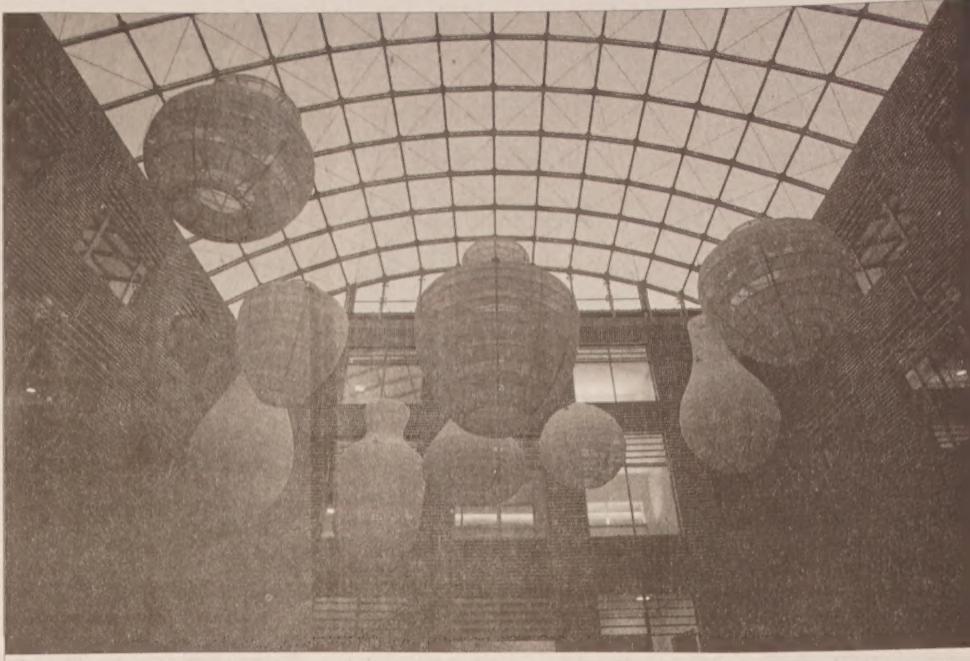
City councilman Bill Henry, who represents the district immediately north of Hopkins and supports Torres, also touched on the candidate's work in the fire department as an example of his commitment to public service, but further emphasized the fact that he had yet to hold an elected office.

"Having served for three years in an elected office, I can say from experience that it can really make you more cynical," he said. "[Torres] doesn't have that. He is still more idealistic about what government can accomplish."

He thought that added to Torres's appeal to college students.

"I like to hope that most Hopkins students are a little more optimistic and idealistic than some of the rest of the community," he said. "If that is true, I think [Torres] will resonate with them."

Conway could not be reached for comment on the upcoming election as of press time.



MORGAN YANG/
PHOTOGRAPHY
EDITOR

Above: A worm's eye view of the Gilman atrium.

Left: The Hut upon entrance.



Students disappointed over Hut hours

HUT, FROM A1

Gilman, there is light filtering through and everything."

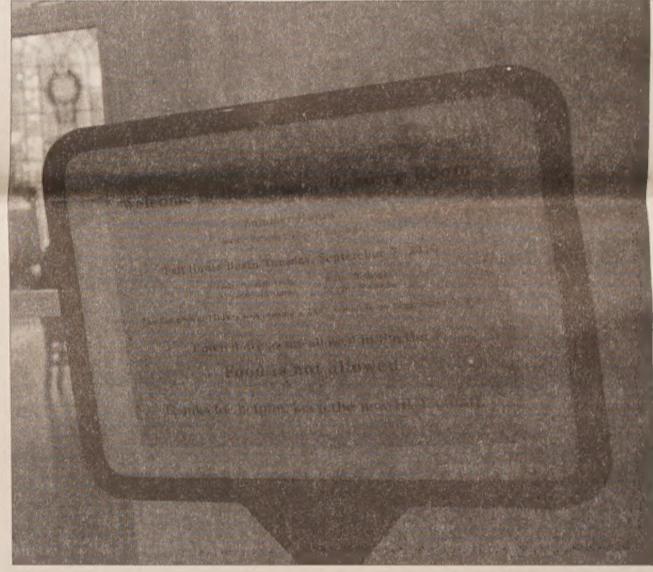
Junior Jai Lakhpal, who has not studied at the Hut, said he wished it was open 24 hours, so as to give students who study late at night a choice.

"I haven't studied in the Hut, but it would be nice to have that choice late at night," he said.

"When I do study, it's late. It would be nice to have a place other than the library, which has connotations of being really stressful, whereas the Hut seems really laid back. I'm really happy with the overall renovations of Gilman, but I feel like it should be more accessible to students when they need it to be."

Jim Gillispie, head of access services and government publications and the law library attributes the shift in 24-hour service from the Hut to the library to students' wishes, however.

"In the past, the Hut has always been available to students, but this past year it was advised to me by the library student advisory committee that MSE should be available 24 hours. We couldn't run two facilities



MORGAN YANG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

The sign above displays the new Hut hours. It closes at midnight every day.

24/7. The wide availability of resources makes MSE a much more convenient study option for students."

Senior Gusvato Barcena wasn't bothered by the change because he doesn't find the new

Hut as study-friendly as the old Hut.

"I'm not angry about the new hours, because the new Hut isn't as conducive to group studying and isn't as easy to get work done in, compared to the Library," Barcena said. "It seems very formidably quiet."

Ultimately, Gillispie implemented the hours, but took into account the wishes of students and the academic calendar.

"We decided a couple of years ago to start implementing the 24-hour services right around Labor Day. We've seen such a surge of students in the library," he said.

Sophomore Marco Swanson said he likes the Hut, but the fact that it isn't open all the time is an issue for him.

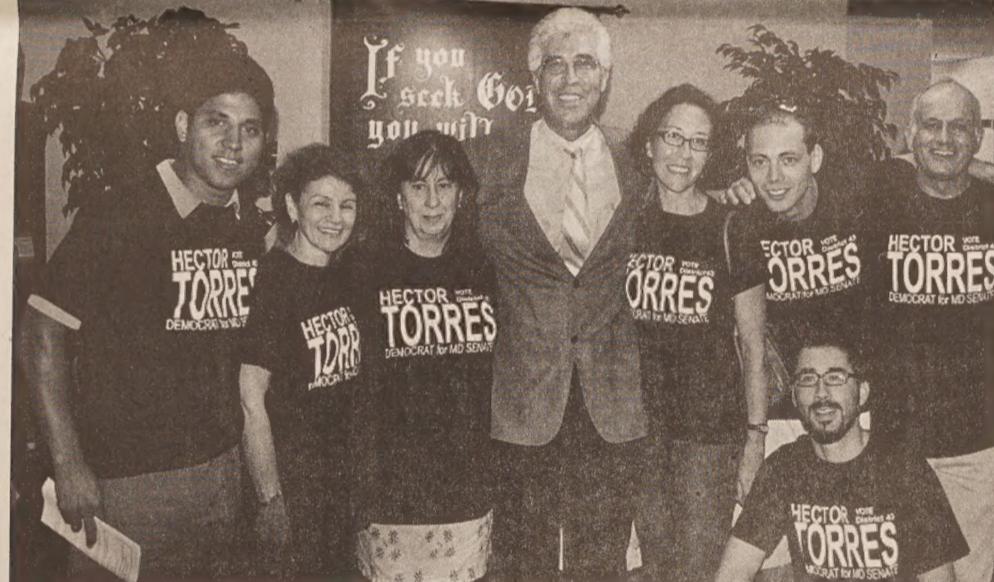
"I don't know how much it affects other students, but for me I see it as a problem because my schedule is kind of different," Swanson said. "At night, that's when I usually study. Being at the library, it's not that enjoyable and I have to leave early into the morning, around 3 a.m. I just wish the Hut was 24 hours."

Underclassmen who haven't had the experience of late nights at the Hut or what some students referred to as the "walk of shame" after the library's nightly closing to the Hut in years past, do not seem to mind either way.

"I've gotten used to the library. I find it comfortable enough," said sophomore Nicole Hui.

Perhaps both MSE and the HUT will be abandoned for the Brody Learning Commons. The 21st-century addition to Hopkins will provide much needed collaborative workspace for students. Gillispie speculated that it may even be open 24 hours.

"Who knows? We'll decide when the time comes," he said.



COURTESY OF TORRESMARYLAND.COM
Supporters pose with state senatorial candidate Hector Torres at a rally. This is his first time running for a public office.

Newly minted freshman class represents 44 states, 34 countries

This year's class was one of the most selective in University history

FRESHMAN, FROM A1
2014 had an increase in the enrollment of underrepresented minorities.

"The University is committed to admitting a diverse class and it looks like we did a good job with that," O'Shea said.

While both sexes are roughly equally represented in the class of 2014, males are slightly ahead with 52 percent of the class being male and 48 percent female. The ratio of males to females this year stayed relatively the same compared to last year's ratio, where 53 percent of the class of 2013 was male and 47 percent female.

This year's freshmen represent 44 states, plus Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands. The top 5 states that are represented are New York (182), New Jersey (153), Maryland (121), California (113) and Pennsylvania (87).

The Krieger School of Arts and Sciences has an enrollment of 65 percent of the class of 2014 whereas 35 percent are enrolled in the Whiting School of Engineering.

Members of the class of 2014 chose Hopkins for many reasons. One such freshman, Marissa Jarosinski, a biology major, came to Hopkins for its biology program. She also liked the fact

that Hopkins does not have a core curriculum.

"I like that I can choose classes from various disciplines," she said.

Despite Hopkins' reputation as a difficult, cutthroat school, her experience here was somewhat of a surprise to her.

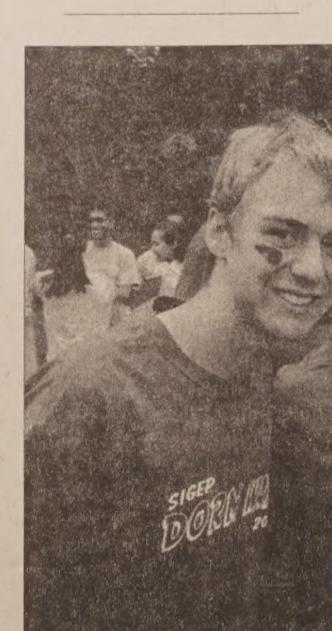
"It was a lot easier than I expected," Jarosinski said. "I haven't struggled in any of classes yet."

In her four years here she hopes to establish herself in both her academic and extracurricular endeavors.

"I definitely want to be on the Dean's List," she said. "And I want to be as involved as possible in things other than class."

Another freshman, Erika Rodriguez from Miami, initially applied to Hopkins for its renowned pre-medical program. She wanted to go to a school with a strong science program because of her hopes to attend medical school. While it was Hopkins' strong reputation for the sciences that led her to apply here, it was ultimately her gut feeling that led her to enroll.

"The moment I stepped on campus, I felt at home," Rodriguez said. "I can't really explain. This is the only campus I visited,



COURTESY OF KATIE GILBERT
Freshmen (from left to right) Wes Bernier, Jen Maylack, Katie Gilbert, and Joseph Puma at the SigEp Dorm Wars.

but I felt good here."

College classes have not fazed Rodriguez either. Rodriguez was enrolled in a dual enrollment program at her high school in Miami called the School for Advanced Studies where she took college classes in the morning and high school classes for the second half of the day. So the Hopkins work-

load was not a surprise to her.

"The workload was kind of what I expected. I knew what college courses would be like and what a college course load would feel like," said Rodriguez.

Her classes are not the only aspect she wants to excel in either. During her four years here, "I want to make sure that when I

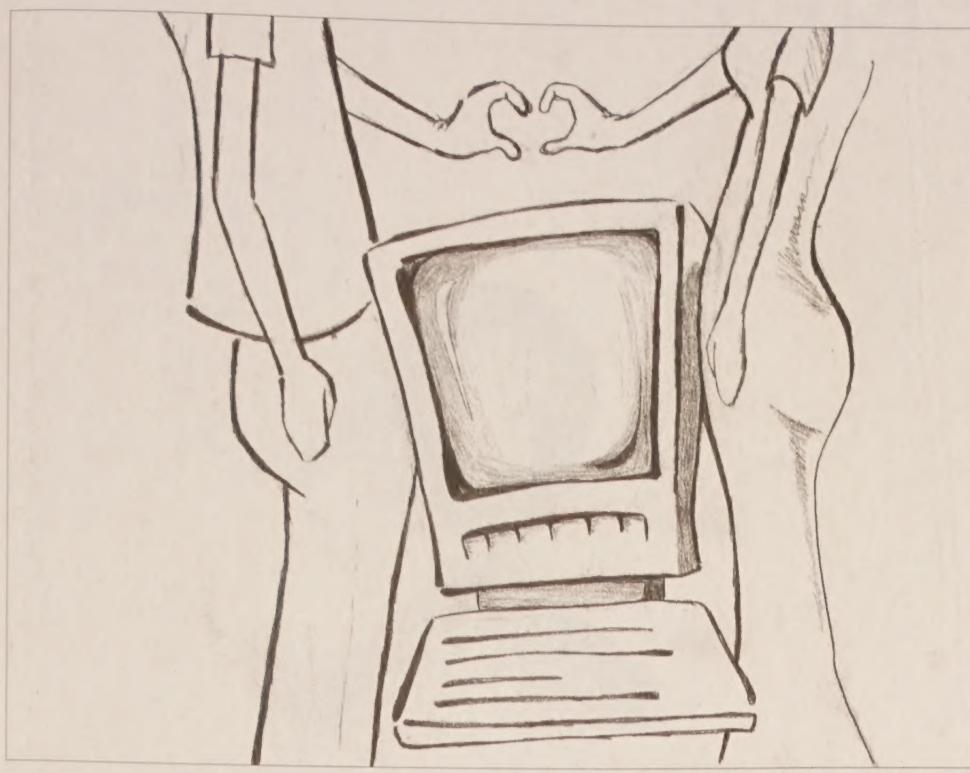
leave I want to leave some of me behind, whether it is starting a club or something else," Rodriguez said.

"The campus itself is so beautiful, aesthetically pleasing," she added. "I feel so lucky to be here."

It seems like Rodriguez's freshman year is off to a good start. Just like the class of 2014.

"Who knows? We'll decide when the time comes," he said.

NEWS & FEATURES



ANNE FABER/GRAFICS EDITOR

Relationships need more than a text

Dear Leah: You are oblivious.

Even coming from my recent ex-boyfriend — the last person I would expect to be impressed by my powers of observation — these five angry little words, standing alone, bewildered me.

When did he decide to message this to me? At 2:03 a.m. the night before, to be exact. But why? I had no idea.

Eagerly I searched for the piece of the puzzle that would reveal my indiscretion to me. But after several text messages, two private messages and a fruitless IM session with some mutual friends, I was still just as oblivious as when I began.

That's when I finally picked up the phone and dialed his number.

Apparently I will go to great lengths to avoid unpleasant, direct encounters with another human being. Conveniently, this is where our generation's cool new electronic devices come into play.

Why shout someone down when you can instantly message arguments from the comfort of your own sofa?

If you are as non-confrontational as I am, then texting, social networking sites and instant messaging must seem like god-sends.

For our generation, building

Leah Mainiero

Guest Sex Columnist

(and tearing down) relationships upon these various forms of electronic messaging began early. The very first boy who asked me out in middle school did so via AIM.

Facebook announced a high school couple's recent split to half of the school's network before anybody even noticed they weren't sitting together in English class.

During sophomore year of college, my mom just shook her head when I told her that a guy had texted me to ask me to a formal dance.

In 2010, we're wired (no pun intended) to message that cute guy or girl before doing anything else.

But the sad truth is that too much messaging wreaks havoc on a relationship.

We've sat by as girlfriends ask how they should interpret a PM.

We've seen friends of both sexes reread texts 10 times over, as if repetition will allow them to glean a deeper meaning from the five or six words and abbreviations that spring onto an illuminated screen.

Online, we throw around phrases like "Facebook stalking" when we check out someone's relationship status, photos, updates, etc.

We learn all about someone's taste in music, books, sports and hobbies without ever talking to them about it.

Bottom line: In a relationship (or a potential one) we've got to stop relying on our cell phones and laptops. Talk to your guy/girl directly! Don't obsess over old Facebook photos of them hugging or kissing someone else.

Don't text them all day when you'll be spending time together later on.

Respect them enough to give them privacy. Don't tweet or update your profile the instant your feelings or love life changes. Keep it between the two of you.

For me, in the end my ex's main source of ire was the fact that I didn't pick up on the signals his friend was sending me, namely, the "I want to get with you" signal at a party a few days before.

In my defense, I thought that the "I want to get with you" signal was hard to read.

But at least it wasn't sent to me in a text message.

Direct contact is irreplaceable. Unless you're a haiku master or your number of words per minute is off the charts, typing out a spectrum of emotions is considerably harder than conveying it to someone in person.

Frankly, you lack the tone of voice and body language cues to do so.

Direct contact is more intimate, and there's also no 250 character limit.

Attempting sarcasm via messaging borders on suicidal — one misinterpreted message and your relationship takes a nose-dive off of a cliff.

Suddenly Levering salads seem exorbitantly expensive, you're eating every meal at One World because you live next door, and your father is wondering why you've spent all the money in your bank account.

I have numerous friends who resign themselves to eating every single meal out because "they can't cook" or "don't have time."

When they complain that they have no money for concerts or spring break I have no sympathy.

Yes, Chipotle is disgustingly good and Ajumma's chicken bulgogi is delicious, but with entrée prices ranging from \$6.50 to \$8, this adds up to a pricey daily meal.

I'm not a saint. I love going to restaurants, I go to bars and frequent Hop Deli, and I am too

bottom line: In a relationship (or a potential one) we've got to stop relying on our cell phones and laptops. Talk to your guy/girl directly! Don't obsess over old Facebook photos of them hugging or kissing someone else.

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As an upperclassman, however, you are rudely thrown out of campus housing, off of the comforting meal plan and expected to fend for yourself.

The Fresh Food Café offers an expansive variety of meals that require no effort and, with the prepaid meal plan, seem to be free.

Even as a sophomore it's easy to rely on Levering and Nolans. Cooking anything in McCoy is a challenge and even those big refrigerators in Charles Commons remain reserved for a Brita, beer, and maybe some microwavable dinners.

As an upperclassman, however, you are rudely thrown out of campus housing, off of the comforting meal plan and expected to fend for yourself.

Which brings me to my main point: you too can cook! And save money!

Seriously, it's not hard. By resigning yourself to the "I-can't-cook" category you're saying you can't perform basic, elementary skills.

So you can't use a knife and cut up a tomato? You can't turn on your stove? Are you really unable to pour some olive oil into a pan? If you've gotten into Hopkins and survived long enough then I'm pretty sure you can.

The scariest part of cooking may be the daunting task of what to buy. You're faced with the epitome of American obesity and over consumption when you walk into a grocery store; but don't fret.

Stick to simple essentials and be sure not to load up on snacks (because even though you're in college, eating Cheetos for breakfast is never a good idea).

Someone once told me to shop along the periphery of a grocery store, and that's where the necessities will be found: produce (vegetables and fruits), protein (meat and fish), dairy (milk, yogurt, cheese), and grains (breads and pastas).

My example of a simple delicious meal that you are 100% guaranteed to be able to cook will be pasta with a fresh tomato sauce.

I promise this will smell much

more complicated than it is to make and can be made in under twenty minutes. You can put the leftovers in the fridge and eat them for lunch tomorrow.

Make it for someone you're interested in (paired with a bottle of red wine) and they'll be extremely impressed.

Pasta with a Fresh Tomato Sauce

Serves 2

Ingredients:

3 Medium sized red tomatoes, chopped

1 Large onion, chopped

1 Clove of garlic, thinly sliced

Handful of fresh basil

Salt

Pepper

Olive oil

Pasta of your choice (half of a box)

Optional: Spinach, sliced mushrooms, and/or chicken*

Fill a medium saucepan with water, add a dash of salt and set over a high heat. Cover with lid and allow to boil.

Once water is boiling add half the box of pasta and cook until al dente (so there's still a bit of firmness when bitten, but not chewy).

Drain pasta when it's fully cooked, put back in cooled saucepan and set aside.

Using a sharp knife, chop up the tomatoes and onions (onions can be diced or sliced).

Slice the garlic as thinly as possible. Place a frying pan over a medium-high heat and add about 2 tablespoons of olive oil to the warm pan.

Add the garlic to the pan and allow to cook until translucent, then add the onion and tomatoes (make sure to include the liquid from the tomatoes too).

The onions should become soft and translucent as well. Stir occasionally. Add salt and pepper to taste.

When the sauce is warm and fragrant it's done.

Either add the sauce to the pot of pasta or simply serve on top of the plated pasta.

Rip up a few basil leaves and top the dish with them. Serve immediately. Supplement the pasta with fresh bread and a salad.

*You can also throw some spinach and/or mushrooms into the frying pan for a fuller, richer sauce.

Sauté chicken in a separate pan and serve with the pasta for a heartier meal.

If you're a newbie to cooking and still addicted to going out to eat, start off slow.

Buy cereal and milk as breakfast, make dinner at home, and use lunch to get your fix of buffalo chicken sandwiches from Char Mar.

It's fun to give a few new things a try.

Lose the overly matched outfits and forget the gel one day, see what you think.

Someone new may just check you out that day, and you'll probably save a good ten minutes in the morning. And really, does it get any better than that?

COURTESY OF FORBES.COM

Pasta with a simple tomato sauce can keep you fed and help impress a new date.

COURTESY OF WWW.STARPULSE.COM AND WWW.ABSOLUTEPUNK.NET

Left: Riley Smith is an example of the classic "pretty boy" in men's fashion. Right: Jamie Dornan showcases the new grunge look.

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Jamie Dornan is an example of the classic "pretty boy" in men's fashion.

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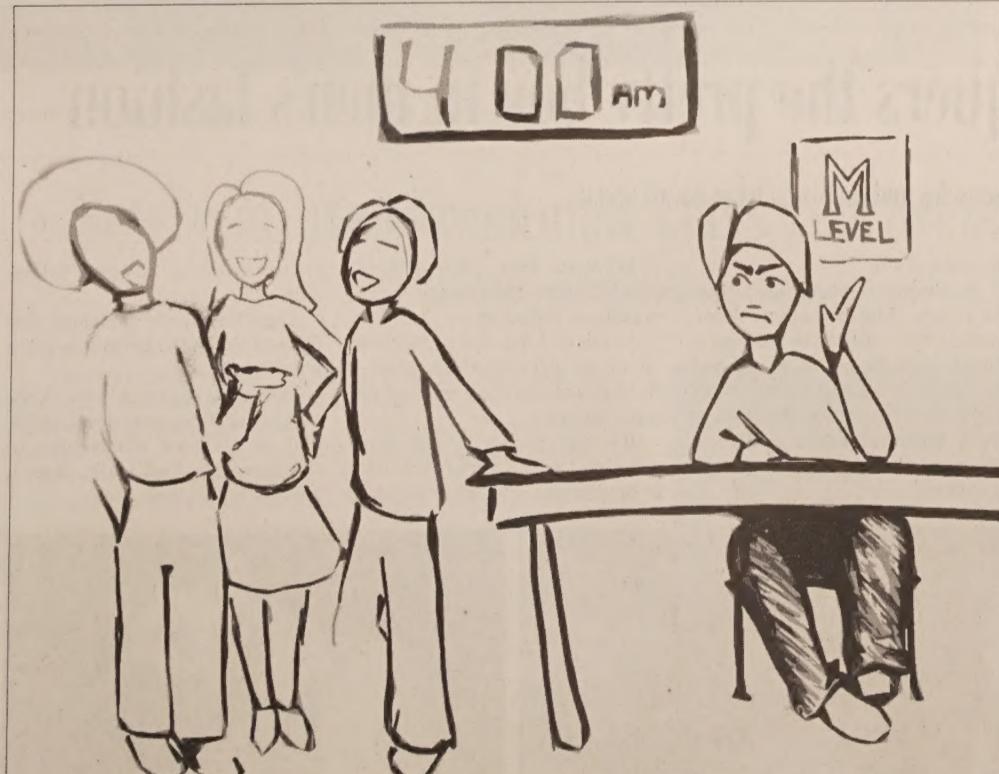
EDITORIALS**After hours with Milton S.**

Two weeks into the school year, most students are already faced with a full workload. As a result, the availability of study space needs to be a major university priority. The recent reopening of Gilman Hall marks the addition of an extra study space in the Albert Hutzler Reading Room (The Hut). As of this week, the University has decided to keep the Hut open until midnight, and the Library open 24 hours a day, with A through D levels closing at 3 a.m. Consequently, the only space available for late night and early morning studying in the library is M level. Though M level is a large enough space to accommodate students in the first few weeks, it is insufficient to deal with students during the midterm exam periods that span the course of the rest of the semester. The Editorial Board of *The News-Letter* believes that it is important to make A and B levels of the library operate on the same schedule as M level.

Budgetary concerns restrict leaving all levels of the library and the Hut open 24 hours. Thus, it is understandable that the Hut is closing at midnight. In order to keep the Hut open, the University must provide security for the whole of Gilman Hall to protect both students and the building from harm. Given that the Hut only seats 60 people, leaving the reading room open is a waste of resources.

Keeping M through B levels open 24 hours a day is a sensible alternative to the current policy, in terms of both cost and functionality. As M level and the security desk in the library will be open all day, it would only take two or three extra security guards to patrol A and B levels - a small marginal cost compared to opening Gilman. Additionally, the proposed policy is very functional. Once 3 a.m. hits and an influx of students moves upstairs, M level gets very loud, making it difficult for some students to study alone. With quiet study cubicles, B level will allow those students who find M and A levels too loud a chance to focus. Similarly, the computer laboratory on M and B levels combined with printing rooms on both floors provide the perfect space for people to write papers and conduct research through the night. Most importantly, by leaving three levels of the library open, students can spread out, allowing themselves more breathing room during late night studying sessions.

The newly renovated Gilman Hall is gorgeous, but it is an impractical 24-hour study spot. Leaving M through B levels open at all hours is the most sensible and cost effective course of action for the University to take, given the clear need for more space than is currently allotted.

Anne Faber

ANTHONY JOHN R. RUSSELL-WOOD, WORLD-RENNED LATIN AMERICAN HISTORIAN AND FORMER CHAIR OF THE HOPKINS HISTORY DEPARTMENT, PASSED AWAY THIS SUMMER AT THE AGE OF 70. HE IS SURVIVED BY HIS WIFE HANNELORE, SONS CHRISTOPHER AND KARSTEN, AND GRANDCHILDREN, KARRIGAN, ELISABETH, ISABELLE AND HAVILAND.

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THE JOHNS HOPKINS
NEWS-LETTER

The Gatehouse
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OPINIONS



ANNE FABER/GRAFICS EDITOR

Protecting domestic freedom of expression: Allow Park 51

By YANG BAI

The argument against Park 51 is, of course, its location. It is two blocks away from Ground Zero, a site where, nine years ago, two commercial airlines flew into the World Trade Center buildings. Al Qaida, believed to be responsible for the attack, is a radical Muslim group that has been linked to terrorist activity throughout the world. The ostensible reason for committing these atrocities is the mandate within the Islamic religion to perform jihad, literally meaning "struggle."

While jihad is one of the most important tenets of Islam, it has many interpretations, most of which do not call for violence.

However, many people are disturbed by the idea of placing a Muslim community center, mistakenly understood to be a mosque, so near the site where over 3,000 lives were taken in the name of Islam.

The first point that needs to be made is that it is only according to the beliefs of Al Qaida itself that the 9/11 attack was in the name of Islam. It is only by their own authority that they are an Islamic organization performing jihad. The majority of the Muslim community

does not support their activities and does not believe them to be fulfilling the commandment of jihad. Therefore, equating a Muslim community center with Al Qaida is both overly simplified and ignorant of the actual Muslim community and religion.

National polls conducted have shown that America as a whole does not support building the center at its proposed site. A margin of 54 percent to 20 percent of American adults are opposed to erecting the center. Surprisingly, in Manhattan itself, a margin of 46 percent to 36 percent supported it. If the residents of the actual region are in favor of construction and 18 percent don't care enough to voice an opinion at all, shouldn't the decision be heavily based on what the people — who will walk by it everyday — want?

Contextually, developing and opening Park 51 is a matter of a religious group paying for and using a private building.

This is a constitutionally protected right. We're not talking about the third amendment or anything. Rather, this right is the foundation of the United States' culture and values.

When we talk about freedom or independence, we're referring to the first amendment. Regardless of whether

their choice of location is offensive — even if Islamic leaders preach that all non-Muslims should convert or die, which they most certainly do not — this community center is protected. To revoke that protection is to revoke freedom for all religions, all press, and all citizens. This isn't rhetoric either — our legal system relies on precedent.

We must not equate Islam itself with the 9/11 attacks and understand that when the tragedy occurred 1.57 billion Muslims around the world did not raise down every street waving victory banners.

Opponents have said that putting a Muslim community center near Ground Zero parallels planting a Nazi flag next to a Holocaust Memorial Museum. This logic is just not sound. Just because a center is being built near Ground Zero doesn't mean that it's meant to insult the victims of the terrorist attacks.

The Nazi flag did not represent every German citizen and it is so irrefutably easy during the burdens of war and pressures of emotional stress to establish a mentality of 'for or against' that one simply declares such a comparison.

To say that allowing this "mosque at ground zero" to be built is yet another victory in the name of Islam is just uneducated and childish. If some opponents

actually took time to read about the project, they would find that the building contains apartments, a culinary school, food courts, a bookstore and so much more than any YMCA of JCC has to offer.

A prayer center is included but will not physically be the main feature of the structure.

This fear of placing a community center near an attack on America is precisely what Islamic militants want. We all know the FDR quote, "the only thing we have to fear is fear itself." What we don't know is that as soon as we subject ourselves to such a bias and panic as opposing construction of a community center on U.S. soil we contradict the fundamental beliefs of this country.

Extremists and terrorists against the United States cannot feasibly make this country crumble as much as they love to proclaim.

But by accepting the fear and antagonism, they have tried to induce to the verge of transgressing against the word of the founding fathers, we jeopardize the exact constitutional morals we

Yang Bai is a junior mechanical engineering and economics double major from Glen Ridge, New Jersey.

With the exception of editorials, the opinions expressed here are those of the contributors. They are not necessarily those of The Johns Hopkins News-Letter.

Adam and Steve after all: Same-sex marriage

By JAVIER AVITIA

It is hard to turn on the television these days and not hear a word or two about gay marriage. State ballot initiatives and legislatures around the country have attempted to both pass and deny marriage equality.

The decision of whether same sex couples should marry, however, is not the choice of the state to make.

Legally speaking, there is nothing wrong with same-sex marriage and a person's decision to do so is protected under the Constitution to the same extent as marriage for an opposite-sex couple.

That said, 30 states have passed, in one form or another, legislation promoting the defense of marriage amendment, banning same-sex marriage and/or civil unions on the grounds that it defies the sanctity of marriage.

Recently, there has even been a push to amend the Constitution of the United States to include a defense of marriage amendment but such an amendment (and by extension the amendments in each of the 30 states) would be unconstitutional.

The reason for this is the Bill of Rights - specifically the First Amendment. As established by the First Amendment, there is a separation of Church and State; entitling all American citizens to practice whatever faith they choose wherever they choose without imposition from the government.

The logic behind the defense of marriage amendment is that it protects the sanctity of marriage, but a quick reference to a dictionary will show sanctity has nothing to do with legality but everything to do with religion.

As it turns out religion has a lot to do with whether or not a person supports or opposes gay marriage.

Proponents of these unequal marriage amendments often cite the Bible both directly and indirectly to justify how same-sex marriage corrupts the moral fabric of society. Interestingly, religious ground for banning same-sex marriage is itself uncertain.

Despite the Bible often being cited as definitive proof that "God hates gays," of the thousands of verses in the Bible only a handful deal with homosexuality and none specifically state that homosexuality is a sin.

While it has been argued that these few verses do in fact condemn homosexuality, the Bible has been misinterpreted many times and taken out of the ancient context in which it was written to justify wars, racism, sexism, and numerous historical and contemporary atrocities — this is no exception.

Such an intrusion of religion into a political agenda has no place in a democracy meant to protect the minority from the tyranny of the majority (i.e. Christians attempting to impose their moral codes on others).

Though even with religion aside, the argument is often made that same-sex couples who adopt children condemn those children to a life of confusion and ridicule.

There is, however, no conclusive evidence to show that same-sex couples are any more detrimental to society (and their children, should they choose) than opposite-sex couples.

Same-sex or opposite-sex, there are good parents and bad ones and how prepared the parents are to raise a child factors into how well the child is raised. The parent's orientation and the sex of his or her partner do not.

What qualifies as a blessed marriage is entirely a religious matter and differs from church to church. Whether or not a particular church decides to validate same-sex marriages is their right under the Constitution.

Just as the Bill of Rights grants citizens the right to choose their faith, it protects churches' right to choose what beliefs that faith entails. It does not however grant churches the right — nor does the government have the right — to impose those beliefs on others.

Separation of church and state exists for good reason. The domain of same-sex marriage is a secular one, and as such lies outside the jurisdiction of any church or religious organization. So c'mon, guys: Let them eat cake.

Javier Alejandro Avitia-Velazquez is a junior materials science engineer from Los Angeles, California.

Lies and misinformation, Republican style

American conservatives are deliberately spreading lies and rumors to disparage the Obama administration to the detriment of dialogue

By STEVE IANELLI

If you repeat a lie often enough, it becomes politics.

In April of 2008, while the presidential election season was already in full swing, a surprising poll figure was released by the Pew Research Center: 10 percent of Americans believed that candidate Barack Obama was Muslim, with a full third of respondents admitting to not knowing his religious beliefs at all.

Among conservative Republicans, 16 percent stated that the president was of Muslim faith. Disregarding the absurdity of this figure coinciding with another 'scandal' being pushed by conservative candidates — that involving Obama's Christian preacher — this is a frighteningly high figure when the man had stated his beliefs outright on multiple occasions.

Now, a year and a half since the inauguration of Imam Hussein Obama, Time magazine has released a new figure: 46 percent of self-identified Republicans believe their president is a Muslim.

Add this to the fact that 41 percent of Republicans do not even believe their president was born in this country, and one starts to wonder where these people are getting their information.

This disregard for reality is not an anomaly in the American right; it is quickly becoming the norm. We saw it under the Bush administration with the Iraq War, when every major government official repeated the lie about weapons of mass destruction until it became dangerous to even question it (just ask Valerie Plame).

We saw it during election season 2004 and 2006 when the GOP convinced their voters that Democrats wanted terrorism to succeed. We saw it again in election season 2008 with the accusations of treason, terrorism, socialism, Marxism and the

birther movement.

The technique is simple: you never actually have to say, "President Obama is a Muslim" or, "The President wants to destroy capitalism." You merely need Rush Limbaugh or Michelle Bachmann to raise the question.

It is not about making the statement — it is about raising the question. And once the idea takes hold, it spreads like wildfire.

The NYC 'mosque' (read: community center with a Muslim prayer space) is all the rage these days, as GOP candidates further the notion that this might be a terrorist recruiting center that could be funded by terror money and there may be a chance it represents a monument to victory.

Even the sciences are not safe from political 'debate'. In New Hampshire, every GOP senate candidate is a global warming denier. In New Mexico — despite multiple forecasts of impending drought in the state — all GOP gubernatorial candidates are global warming deniers.

While the rest of the civilized world struggles to find a solution to the impending climate crisis, scientists in the United States still struggle to convince the populace that the problem even exists.

But as we have all seen, you don't need to make the statement — just plant the seed. Of course Michelle Obama isn't trying to force the country's children to only eat what she deems suitable.

But raise the question, and the dam-

age is done. Obviously the Nuclear Security Summit logo was not designed to reflect Obama's Muslim faith.

But make the suggestion, and the damage is done. And you would have to be insane to think that Obama's health-care logo really looks like a Nazi swastika. But photoshop the images together, and you get the point.

So who do we blame for the banner of misinformation that flies proudly above the GOP? No one would hesitate to point

at the people who start the lies — the Palins and Bachmanns and Limbaughs of politics and punditry. But where is the responsible leadership?

Michael Steele, punching bag for his own party, is one apology away from literally kissing Rush Limbaugh's ass. Newt Gingrich, a strong GOP contender for the 2012 presidential election, doesn't hesitate to repeat the lies surrounding the Muslim community center. Even John McCain, once touted as a moderate conservative, was reluctant to dismiss every factually devoid rumor that came his way in 2008.

And even more absurd than the lies peddled by the political right is the complete disinterest in countering them from the left.

As President Obama's approval rating holds steady even after multiple political victories, all Democrats can do is roll their eyes while the demagoguery takes hold.

The smear machine created by the right is crippling meaningful deliberation, and is impervious to reason.

Left leaning voters express a continued lack of interest in politics, with 62 percent of conservatives expressing 'a lot' of interest in the upcoming

election and only 41 percent of liberals and moderates expressing similar concern.

I am happy to see the citizens of this country get involved in politics, and I am especially happy to see that the party out of power continues to fight for their beliefs. But where are they getting these ridiculous ideas? And why are their leaders and politicians not willing to fight for the truth?

Talk show hosts like Glenn Beck and Bill O'Reilly shamelessly and emotionally make assertions on issues ranging from Michelle Obama's leisure activities to lies about the President's birth certificate.

These hosts have the leisure of being inconsistent. They resonate with people in the way that they convey outrage and emotion, not reason and consideration. Worse still, news sources like Fox News constantly peddle the same lies over the course of a news cycle, thus ingraining their claims in the minds of their viewers.

For too long have conservative politicians stood idly while their constituents confessed belief in lies and nonsense in ever increasing numbers.

President Obama is a Christian. He is an American citizen and was born in the United States.

Global climate change is real. Evolution is real. 9/11 was caused by a group of religious radicals, and the proposed NYC community center is not associated with their ideals. These are facts. These are not my opinions or weak conjectures that are up for debate.

And if our discourse does not immediately change to reflect an interest in the facts surrounding this country's politics, we will see dangerous electoral results this November.

For all we know, we may or may not be left deciding between Democrats and fascist Nazi sympathizers. Or something. I'm just sayin'.

Steve Iannelli is a graduate engineering student from Haddon Heights, NJ.

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Barnstormers open season with impeccable Clean House

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Dark Matter

See how
scientists
look at light
to study
dark matter

Page B7

YOUR WEEKEND SEPT. 9 - 12

Being Baltimorean: An introduction to the talk and trademarks of the real Charm City

By MICHAEL FERRANTE
For The News-Letter

Read the following sentence aloud and try to guess what it's saying: Aw can't eben fink wit dem sarns from dat farn gin blairn down Blair Rayd. Betchall it's cause dem Galvin's turble bawler. Gon sploded. Can't ardly faycus oin mah arnin wit all dat naws.

"But, Michael," you are screaming right now, "Baltimore is so dangerous and there is nothing to do."

Well, dear reader, let me point out that Baltimore is only dangerous if you choose to ignore common sense. Walking alone at night around anywhere but "dee Abeno" in Hampden or practically any street in Roland Park will naturally put you in danger. That's just foolhardy and dumb, like playing Russian Roulette with a loaded glock. However, if you treat Baltimore like a lady, the two-toothed, overweight lady that she is, you will come to love her.

To make the most of your Baltimore experience, allow me to give you a crash course in the standard beacons of Baltimorean culture.

First, Lexington Market is the premiere awesomeness in The City That Reads. An amalgamation of everything Charm, the Lexington Market features some classic Baltimore cuisine at Faidley's (seafood haters need not

ica.) I agree, but I know some New York fans would erringly dissent. Yes, New Yorkers, you're wrong. New York is an identityless body warehouse compared to Baltimore and its internally developed being.

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COURTESY OF CHRISTINA WARNER
Federal Hill, a popular park for tourists and Baltimoreans, sits right above the Inner Harbor

bother) and the now infamous Utz Stand.

If you are looking for something sweet to eat, I recommend the Berger stall. Berger is a bakery here in Baltimore that is world-renowned for its eponymous cookie, which consists of globs of tasty fudge over a delectable vanilla cookie.

Want something a little classier? Make your way to Mr. Bill's Terrace Inn in Dundalk, which actually is no classier — in fact, it's just another version of delicious trash.

But Baltimore doesn't need class. Mr. Bill's is one of the finest crab houses this side of any-

where. They have a seasoning for their crabs that makes your mouth cry in holy exultation while you savor the perfectly

steamed crabs.

Don't like seafood? Get out. No, seriously, we don't want your kind here.

There are only three movie theaters that are worth going to in Baltimore.

The first, the Senator, closed about a year ago. The other theater shows almost strictly independent films and is just a short JHMI shuttle away. Yes, the Charles Theater is the cornerstone for Baltimore's small but growing Art District. The tickets seem cheaper than any movie theater in the county and you can almost never go wrong with any of its screenings.

Finally, for the most comfortable movie theater seats in Baltimore, make your way to the Rotunda. It's not far at all. Plus,

every Tuesday the tickets are only five dollars. And if I ever find out that you went to that business-stealing Landmark downtown, we're gonna have words.

Finally, for those of age, and those who have ID that says they are of age, I'd check out the Powerplant, simply from morbid curiosity.

Then I'd hit the John-Waters-haunt Club Charles, across the street from the Charles.

If for some reason, you have made it to Baltimore without knowing who John Waters is, you are now obligated to come to his reading this Saturday at the JHU Bookstore.

It will be the perfect follow-up to my crash course on Baltimore and its crabs.

Revelry Returns with the Renaissance Festival

By MICHAEL FERRANTE
For The News-Letter

It's that time of year again in Baltimore. The weather messes with you, making you think it will be a pleasant week, because Sunday was so nice, and then hits you with a scorch on Wednesday when you are wearing jeans and an ungodly hot shirt. The leaves change from pallid, sickly green to pallid, sickly yellow-green. Yes, fall is approaching in Baltimore.

And what is the appropriate response to a Baltimorean fall? Getting drunk. I'm sorry, let me be more specific: getting drunk at the Renaissance Festival.

The RenFest is a very important event for Baltimoreans and Marylanders. Located in Crownsville, Md. in the tiny make-believe village of Revel Grove, this second-largest Renaissance Festival in the U.S. provides an insight into commercially created 16th-century England.

Yes, ye-old-Englande was once filled with 20-to-40-somethings trying to escape their lives for a weekend. Here's a tip: The ones who really hate their jobs wear really good costumes.

This is not to say that everyone at RenFest hits the mark in his or her Elizabethan get-ups. Some show too little when they should be showing off and others just let it all hang out in some form of a dungeon torturer's ensemble. Think leather, metal studs and a stomach that has endured years binging on the Baltimorean beverage of choice, National Bohemian.

The food, however, is surprisingly delicious. The turkey leg is truly a feast fit for a king and you will see many King Henry XIIIs feasting along with you. To finish your kingly feathered-friend-feast, partake in a bowl of fried ice cream, or cheesecake, two desserts only a king could afford



COURTESY OF WWW.IMANISCHOOL.ORG
Jousting, an old-time horse-riding sport, is a popular event at the Renaissance Fair.

in the 1500s (if they existed).

Now, what would a day of merriment be without the merry-making brewskis from a simpler time? For those of age, the real fun of the RenFest lies in the ability to inebriate oneself and look the fool while laughing at the hired fools. To get a free beer, just line up at the Guesse-Ye-Olde-Weight booth and hope you can hide some pounds behind that corset. Ladies, you can wear corsets too.

After engorging yourself, there are plenty of chances to be humiliated at the various games around the grounds. My personal favorite is axe and knife throwing. I never win and I always miss the target by a few feet. I do, however, get to throw

seemingly deadly things. It's a good ego booster.

If you just want a good dose of schadenfreude, I might suggest watching Maryland's state sport. No, not lacrosse, but jousting. Watching men in heavy armor feasting on sand satisfies both our need for violence and a chance to say, "I could do better."

Whether you want to make believe or make fun, RenFest is a must for Baltimoreans. The festival runs every weekend through September and October from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and tickets are \$18. You can rent a ZipCar, ask a friend for a ride, or hitchhike. Just get yourself to Revel Grove for some good ole-fashioned revelry.

Outdoor Pursuits

Escape city life for a day with a trip into the Great Outdoors



COURTESY OF WILL SHEPHERDSON
Outdoor Pursuits leader Reeve Heines and JHOC leader Meagan Hawes canoe through Youghiogheny River rapids.

Once your semester at Hopkins gets busy, it becomes too easy to spend all your time inside in front of a computer screen. Don't forget to enjoy nature during these beautiful fall days — consider taking a trip with Outdoor Pursuits.

No matter what your level of experience, you can find an activity suitable for you. Outdoor Pursuits offers everything from an afternoon of sailing in the Baltimore Harbor, to hiking trips far from recognizable civilization. A weekend of fly fishing or kayaking can relieve stress and leave you with new memories and friends. Outdoor Pursuits also sponsors an Intersession mountaineering trip in Ecuador for experienced hikers.

Trips run throughout September and October, but they fill up quickly, so be sure to sign up soon at www.jhu.edu/recreation, under Experimental Education. Trips are \$10 for students.

Trip Calendar

SEPTEMBER:

- 17 — Sailing
- 18 — Beginning White Water Kayaking
- 19 — Sea Kayaking
- 21 — Ecuador Mountaineering Info Meeting
- 24 — Sailing
- 25 — Hiking
- 26 — Beginning Climbing
- Beginning Sea Kayaking

OCTOBER:

- 1 — Sailing
- 3 — Intermediate/Advanced Canoeing
- 8 — Sailing
- 15 — Sailing
- 16 — Beginning White Water Kayaking
- 17 — Hiking
- 22 — Sailing
- 29 — Sailing
- 30 — Intermediate/Advanced Kayaking

Calendar of JHU Events

Friday, Sept. 10

Buttered Niblets Improv Show Arellano Theater 8 - 10 p.m.

Enjoy some off-the-cuff humor from the only improvisational comedy group at Hopkins.

SLAM Hip-Hop Dance Party Glass Pavilion 11 p.m. - 2 a.m.

The Hopkins "Stop, Look At Me" dance crew is throwing a late-night dance party, all are welcome. Admission is \$2. Open tryouts for the group are Sept. 12, 8 - 9:30 p.m. in the Mattin Center Dance Studio.

Saturday, Sept. 11

September 11 Day of Service

and Remembrance Keyser Quad 5 - 7 p.m.



COURTESY OF REMOTE-DBA.NET

To honor those affected by the tragedy of 9/11, come join the American Red Cross of Central Maryland for a walk/run (not a race), starting at 5:30 p.m. Refreshments will be available throughout the evening.

You are encouraged to wear red, white or blue. The event is open to all, visit www.jhu.edu/red-cross for more information.

Throat Culture Comedy O-Show Arellano Theater 8 - 9 p.m.

Hopkin's sketch comedy group brings back some classic sketches, for new and old audience members to enjoy.

Ethiopian New Year Sherwood Room 6 - 9 p.m.

The Hopkins Ethiopian and Eritrean Society offers free Ethiopian food and music, in celebration of the New Year. Open for all to enjoy.

APO Picnic Upper Quad 12 - 2 p.m.

APO, the co-ed community service fraternity, is having a picnic to meet potential members. Check out www.jhu.edu/aphio for more info.

Baltimore Happenings

Thursday, Sept. 9

I am the Machine Gunner Theater Project 45 W. Preston St. Thursday-Saturday 8 p.m. Sunday 3 p.m.

The Generous Company pres-

ents this translation by John Freedman from Yury Klavdiev's Russian play about a Russian gang member, showing for its last weekend. \$10 for students.

Friday, Sept. 10

Taxlo Dance Party Sonar 9 p.m.

D.J. Dave Nada is half of Nadasstrom, an artistic team that has worked with many A-list celebrities. Nada is moving to L.A. For \$8, be part of his last Sonar party.

Baltimore Tattoo Arts Convention Sheraton City Center Hotel Friday-Sunday

Convention includes live bands, the Enigma, suspension acts, a burlesque show, tattoo contests, an art gallery and live tattooing.

Brings 200 of the world's best artists to Baltimore. \$20 per day.

Saturday, Sept. 11

Second Saturdays

Charles St/North Ave. www.stationnortharts.com

Experience shows, art exhibits and performances at various venues in the Station North Arts District. Many of the events are free.



THEWILDWORLDOFTEDVMIKELSCOM

John Waters Reading Hopkins Barnes and Nobles 1 - 3 p.m.

John Waters is a Baltimorean writer, actor and more. He is particularly famous in the City as the director of the film *Hairspray* (1988). He is giving a reading from his new book "Role Models," and signing copies.

Hampdenfest W. 36th St. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

This popular festival promotes the local businesses and unique flavor of Hamp-

den. Includes three music stages, street performances, art exhibits, a film festival, vendors, antiques and Baltimore cuisine.

Ukrainian Festival

Patterson Park

Sat. 12 - 9 p.m., Sun. 12 - 7 p.m. www.ukrainianfestival.net/

Experience what it means to be Ukrainian, with dance groups, a Cultural Tent, music, arts and crafts, a pierogi eating contest, and a Ukrainian beer garden. Free admission.

Korean Festival

War Memorial Plaza

101 N. Gay St.

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Featuring traditional dances, tae kwon do demonstrations and more.

Daniel Zaretsky on Organ Leith Symington Griswold Hall Peabody 4 - 6 p.m.

A selection of works will be performed on organ, including Bach, Gigout and Kohler, by acclaimed organist Zaretsky. Student tickets \$5.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

JHU Barnstormers polish up with *Clean House*



MORGAN YANG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Ana (Emily Holthaus, above) is a cancer patient who finds her "beshert" soulmate in Lane's (Emily Sucher, not pictured) husband.

By REBECCA FISHBEIN
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The JHU Barnstormers' intelligent production of the comedic *The Clean House*, held last weekend at Swirnow Theater, strove to explore the very nature of jokes, and their connection both to healing as well as to sadness.

Written by young American playwright Sarah Ruhl, *The Clean House* follows the story of Matilde (junior Eliza Vasconcellos), a twenty-seven year old woman from Brazil who is working as a cleaning woman for Lane (junior Emily Sucher), a surgeon.

Matilde, an aspiring comedian, has recently lost both of her parents, who were considered the funniest people in all of Brazil; her mother "died laughing" after hearing a joke that her father had spent a year constructing.

Matilde is depressed, both because her parents have died and because she hates cleaning, a source of frustration for the uptight Lane. Lane's sister Virginia (sophomore Hannah Jiam), a bored housewife who is obsessive about cleaning, offers to take over Matilde's job covertly, an act that will allow Matilde to have time to construct the "perfect joke", while Virginia will have a project that takes her mind off her own ennui.

One day, while folding Lane's

and her husband, Charles' (senior Matt Panico) laundry, Virginia and Matilde find lacy underwear that leads them to suspect that Charles is cheating on Lane; Charles' frequent absences and failure to call home while working late furthers this suspicion.

Virginia and Matilde's fears turn out to be correct, as Charles has fallen in love with Ana (senior Emily Holthaus), a breast cancer patient upon whom he has recently performed a mastectomy. Charles and Ana visit Lane to explain that they are each others' "beshert", a Hebrew term for soulmate, and cannot help their love.

Ana, who is from Argentina and converses with the homesick Matilde in a Spanish/Portuguese mixture, invites Matilde to come live with them; Matilde, not wanting to leave Virginia or the miserable Lane behind, decides to split her time between the two houses.

Matilde is enthralled with Ana, and the purity of Ana and Charles' romance, but when Ana's cancer returns, she, Charles, Lane and Virginia must all make hard choices about what it really means to love someone.

Throughout the play, Matilde tells jokes in Portuguese, and recounts memories of her parents, both real and imagined.

The Clean House is a bizarre

comedy, rife with larger-than-life characters and wacky plotlines. Sometimes, the overarching theme — that humor and sadness are intrinsically intertwined — gets muddled in Ruhl's madcap style, making it a little difficult for the audience to pinpoint exactly what is going on at what point, and why it is happening in the first place.

But when *The Clean House* is funny, it is really funny, and when it is touching, it is truly touching, leaving the audience sad and satisfied at its conclusion. Vasconcellos does a good job as the oft-dreamy, somewhat befuddled Matilde, making the audience believe her heartbreak at her parents' deaths, and the love she feels for Virginia, Ana, Charles, and eventually Lane.

Sucher's Lane is fittingly tense and testy, and, while there are moments in which she goes a bit overboard, she handles her character's slightly stifled emotional breakdown after learning of

Charles' infidelity with aplomb.

Panico's Charles is a bit weird and wooden, though it is perhaps appropriate for the meticulous middle-aged surgeon. Sometimes, he is believable as the dashing Charles, though, for the most part, he seems more bumbling than brilliant.

Holthaus' performance as the free-spirited Ana is sweet and sultry, and she manages to convince the audience that they too should root for her relationship with Charles. It is difficult, however, to imagine Holthaus as the 67-year-old cancer patient she is described to be.

But Jiam's performance as Virginia is above and beyond the best, an enthusiastic, emotionally diverse depiction of a complicated character.

Jiam is simultaneously hilarious and heartwrenching as she bounces about the stage, cleaning her sister's carpet and postulating on what her life might have been had she not settled for her husband and her role as a homemaker.

She is utterly believable, absurdly adorable, and immensely entertaining to watch, stealing the show from the rest of the talented cast. It is not just her delivery that is spot-on, but the subtlety of her facial expressions and the precision of her on-stage actions that create her character's persona.

The cast is not the only thing cool about *The Clean House*. The set design, headed by Erin Deda, is awesome, featuring a mod living room set and an overhead porch with a real live fish in a fishbowl. Sound Designer Adam Feinstein hypes scene changes with Elvis tunes, and producer Alanna Klos keeps the whole shebang together.

The Clean House is not a perfect production, but with Jiam's performance matched with Ruhl's script it is most certainly an interesting one, and worth some serious discussion.

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Crime novelist Lippman discusses new book

By PHYLLIS ZHU
Arts & Entertainment Editor

On Wednesday *The News-Letter* chatted with crime novelist and Baltimore native Laura Lippman about her latest book, *I'd Know You Anywhere*.

Lippman, who is the author of the Tess Monaghan PI series, is known for her strong female protagonists and keen ability to create psychologically compelling characters.

I'd Know You Anywhere examines the relationship between Eliza Benedict and the man who kidnapped her when she was 15 years old.

The News-Letter (N-L): How did you come up with the idea for your new novel?

Laura Lippman (LL): I came up with the novel while I was listening to a talk on creativity

by another writer, with which I disagreed vehemently.

I felt that it made the process of writing out-of-reach and very ethereal, and I didn't like it.

I thought to myself, well, the best way I could refute this talk is to sit here and have an idea for my next novel. I sat there and did some old-fashioned brainstorming. One of the things I came up with was obscure Maryland crimes.

I don't like to write stories about really well-known cases.

I'm not doing stories that are ripped from headlines, I'm writing books that are inspired by crime.

I thought about a crime that I knew about from a long time ago that involved a serial killer that kidnapped, raped, and killed his victims with one exception.

It just suddenly occurred to me to think about what it was like to be that person, the person who survived, and what it would be like if

years after, having kept this behind you as well as you might be able to, you were contacted by that very person, by the killer, the rapist.

N-L: How do you get into the psychological mindset of your characters?

LL: Getting into the mindset of other people is just a willful act of imagination.

It takes thinking and caring to try and imagine what the world is like from another person's point of view, and since the writer is creating the character and has full access to everything about the character, it shouldn't be that much of a leap.

I mean, it is something that does takes imagination, it does take a lot of curiosity about other people, and it takes a willingness to try to not see the world as I see it, but as the characters I'm creating might see it.

N-L: Is it difficult to switch
SEE LIPPMAN, PAGE B4

Rocky Horror rocks and shocks Arellano, unsettles newbies

By NATALIE BERKMAN
For *The News-Letter*

At midnight last Saturday, a group of Hopkins students performed a live version of the famous cult classic, *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, at the Arellano Theater in Levering.

This performance, while equipped with several new additions that would only be appropriate at Hopkins, kept the *Rocky Horror* tradition alive, mandating audience participation and adding in all the right interjections at all the right moments.

The hilarious costumes, catchy rock-and-roll tunes and science fiction parodies both delighted and shocked seasoned *Rocky Horror* veterans and freshman "virgins" alike.

As with any spectacle, it is typically a good idea for an audience member to know what he is getting himself into. Foreknowledge can potentially enrich a performance and allow for a better interpretation.

With plays or movies, it can sometimes be beneficial to know the plot in advance in order to be able to follow what could be confusing or intricate.

With *Rocky Horror*, that is not really necessary — the plot is easy to follow (there isn't much of one), and knowing the music will not seriously enrich the performance.

Too much knowledge, however, is often a curse rather than a blessing. For example, try watching the *Sixth Sense* knowing the famous plot twist — it probably is not as exciting as a first time.

Obviously, there are pros and cons — having a surplus or a dearth of knowledge about what a viewer is about to see are both potentially problematic situations.

That being said, it is probably a safe piece of advice to have some knowledge of *Rocky Horror* before seeing it performed live.

While the show's official fan site maintains that "the more surprised you are on your first



COURTESY OF EDDIE WANG

Rocky Horror audience "virgins" were marked with red-lipsticked Vs on their foreheads and performed a series of bizarre tasks.

time, the more fun it is," the decadence portrayed might just be too much for what the cult followers of this film would call a "virgin," a.k.a. someone who has never attended a live *Rocky Horror* performance before (seeing the movie doesn't count).

Rocky Horror virgins get red "V"s drawn on their faces and are often included as part of the performance.

Furthermore, being labeled as such at one's first visit to such a performance is potentially embarrassing and unwanted, though some people enjoy being singled out. It could, however, turn a novice who did not foresee this type of initiation against a show that has appealed to so many since its 1975 British release date.

Conversely, there is virtually no danger of being overly informed — although seeing the *Rocky Horror* is different than watching any other movie due to the expected audience participation, the participation required varies from theater to theater. Although you are watching a movie, much like a live performance of a musical, *Rocky Horror* changes every time.

Even at Hopkins, students get dirty and decadent at midnight to carry out the famous steps of the (in)famous "time warp."

again and again.

As with all *Rocky Horror* performances, this troupe of Hopkins students began with the "virgins" who had all been appropriately marked with a lipstic "V".

The trials — faking animal (in addition to Sarah Palin and Billy Mays) orgasms, finding cherries in a whipped cream pie without using hands, and last but not least, licking whipped cream off one another's chests — took a while due to the large number of virgins.

It was sufficiently awkward, and those onstage did not seem to be enjoying it to its fullest.

After pledging allegiance to the disembodied lips that introduce the movie, the performers began pantomiming the parts as the movie played overhead. While names and pictures must be excluded (who would want this to go on their resume?), let's just say that the actors were spirited.

Each one a reasonable duplicate of the characters on screen (some cross-dressing to fit the role, and others cross-dressing because the role demanded it), they constantly ran around the theater, chasing each other or interacting with audience members.

Meanwhile, audience members that had obviously done this

before added in the appropriate interjections while the movie rolled.

For those who have somehow managed to escape this cult phenomenon, here is the story: Brad Majors (the "asshole") and Janet Weiss (the "slut") meet a transsexual Transylvanian in his castle while looking for a phone ("but castles don't have phones, asshole").

Between scenes, the neckless criminologist narrates and describes how Brad and Janet behave in this depraved world of seemingly endless decadence.

The *Rocky Horror Picture Show* is a highly worshipped classic film, one of the only to boast such a following of active participants. Seeing it performed live can be considered an important college experience.

In any case, seeing it live is much more interesting than watching the movie on Netflix Instant Watch in the privacy of one's dorm room as a study break.

For anyone who believes Hopkins is a boring university, that students here have no social lives, that it is "where fun goes to die," go see the next performance on Halloween. But be warned, it is supposed to be shocking.



COURTESY OF BRIAN JEON

The Hopkins Lion Dance Troupe performed at the O Dance Show on Friday night.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Sex, Blood & HBO: Season three of *True Blood*

By GREG SGAMMATO
Managing Editor

The success of HBO's *True Blood* is a phenomenon resulting from a variety of factors. Creators and cast members deserve some credit; the show has benefitted from defining itself as an over-the-top, campy and often hilarious take on the vampire craze.

Even so, it would be foolish to pretend that the show has not ridden the wave of sexy blood-suckers that has swept the country.

In its third season, *True Blood* has reached perhaps its most defining moment. Can the show outlast the vampire fad and maintain a fan base of its own? Will writers continue to find that winning combination of sex, violence and utter implausibility?

The answer, it seems, is yes and no. This season has emulated a typical business cycle, vacillating from periods of boom — when vampires and werewolves plus sensuous Louisiana equal titillating TV — and bust — when cheesy writing and lackluster acting cannot support an already ridiculous premise.

The first few episodes began at a crawl. The first episode, "Bad Blood," served little purpose than to reacquaint fans with the happenings of Bon Temps, Louisiana. Sam (Sam Trammell) and Tara (Rutina Wesley) are typically troubled; Jason (Ryan Kwanten) fumbles his way through the show's 60 minutes.

Indeed, the momentum started by last season's finale — when Bill (Stephen Moyer) is kidnapped by a group of unnamed assailants — is lost through this episode's inability to spur interest in the plot.

The only interesting moment occurs when Sookie (Anna Paquin) and Eric (Alexander Skarsgård) face off, resulting in sexual tension — and the only believable aspect of the show.

For a time, the season dredges on at a similar pace. Bill appears to betray Sookie and a powerful, ancient vampire named Russell Edgington (the hilarious Dennis O'Hare) reveals himself as a werewolf taskmaster, bidding these primal creatures to do his bidding.



COURTESY OF TRUEBLOOD.NET
Sookie (Anna Paquin) and vampire Bill (Stephen Moyer) haven't lost their looks this season, but *True Blood's* bite isn't quite there.

A few gems appear in the early stages of the season; Joe Manganiello's Alcide Herveaux, a good-hearted werewolf who looks out for Sookie, provides more chemistry than Bill Compton ever could. O'Hare, too, chews the scenery and makes the most of his time on screen.

The turning point occurs at the end of episode four. As Bill — who has left Sookie for his ex and "maker," Lorena (Mariana Klaveno) — devours a hopeless victim in a limo, the camera pans out and shows blood pouring from the door.

Damien Rice's "9 Crimes," also the name of the episode, plays in the background, and the episode's suddenly somber tone correctly captures Bill's regret and shame. For the first time in the season, *True Blood* captured — albeit briefly — emotional depth.

The following episodes are, in contrast to the opening few, fantastic. Eric learns the truth of his family's fate. Chemistry between Alcide and Sookie simmers, and Tara has a juicy encounter with vampire-for-hire Franklin Mott (James Frain).

Bill and Sookie go through not-so-typical relationship woes, and Lafayette (Nelsan Ellis) finds a love interest in his mentally unstable mother's nurse, Jesus Velasquez (Kevin Alejandro). The ridiculousness, ingenious writing and sexual elements that made the show famous are in full force.

Easily the best moment of the season arrives at the climax of episode 9, "Everything is Broken." Without revealing too much, O'Hare's Russell takes to the main stage and brings the vampire-human peace movement to a startling halt.

It is a moment of campy, utter hilarity, a throwback to the days when vampires donned black attire and overacted their way into the hearts of millions of fans. Russell embodies everything that works for the show, and at once the entire arc of the season is more than worth it.

Unfortunately, the momentum again comes to a halt. With only the season finale to go, HBO's sexiest series seems dead set on pursuing utterly uninteresting subplots and ignoring what makes the show so addicting.

And if not, who cares? They're still hot.

Indeed, Russell has had very limited face time in the past few episodes, and Alcide hasn't been seen in weeks.

It remains to be seen whether the season finale will be one that defines the show as a lasting presence on cable television, or the first sign of the end.

If the past few years have taught us anything, it's that vampires are polarizing creatures. Twilight has thrown hormone-filled teenagers into camps Edward and Jacob, ruining friendships and alienating a nation of warra-be-Bellas.

In a broader sense, the rift between those who dig bloodsuckers and those who think they just suck has grown swiftly since Dracula traded in his cape for skinny jeans and hair gel.

Nevertheless, fans across the country and, indeed, the world have become smitten with *True Blood's* southern world of decadence, the arena of mystique and raw sex that exists in Bon Temps.

Hopefully this Sunday's season finale will serve as an example for why the show is worth watching.

And if not, who cares? They're still hot.

O Show dance showcase is mixed bag of moves

O SHOW, FROM B3

While the duet piece seemed to lack chemistry, it was interesting to watch the group experimenting with different styles and rhythms. Occasionally, though, the music took too large a role in the proceedings.

Temp d'Afrique, the dance group of the African Students Association, chose an amazing set of songs but they seemed to struggle to match the energy of their soundtrack.

However, it's difficult to criticize anyone's dance skills or compositions for a few reasons. Mainly, because dance is a delicate art and that most people know next to nothing about the tenets of traditional, modern, or contemporary dance.

Furthermore, it is clear that we all just came back from summer break and that the ol' dancin' bones are a bit rusty.

And so in place of challenging moves or mind-blowing energy, it would have been nice to at least seen a group of people unafraid to move with abandon. On the whole, that is what most groups did.

This writer's relatively forgiving expectations, however, made it all the more amazing when S.L.A.M. completely blew everyone away with their performance. Describing their performance with words feels unfair,

as the general reaction seemed to be "OMG OMG OMG," and it's difficult to even recall what songs they used. It was like watching the Wedding Dance video on YouTube for the first time; except everyone in S.L.A.M. seemed to have professional-level skills.

But the happiness, the communal spirit, the youthful energy, that's what makes those dance scenes in movies so intoxicating, and that's why S.L.A.M. ultimately succeeded.

The Eclectics used the India Arie song "Therapy" for one of their compositions, which seemed particularly fitting. That particular dance didn't even resonate with me emotionally, but reminded me of how special dance can be to watch and experience.

The students in each of the groups, from the pair of belly-dancers representing Egyptian Sun, to the always impressive, professional Modern Dance Company, sought out their respective groups in order to have fun, challenge their bodies, and maybe lose themselves for a little while.

That physical abandon that dancing provides us is really an emotional gift as well; and the dance showcase was invaluable just for reminding us that there are at least 13 groups of people with whom we can do just that.



COURTESY OF BRIAN JEON
Modern Dance Company was one of the many groups that performed on Friday.

B-more writer talks “criminal minds”

LIPPMAN, FROM B3
between the victim's perspective and the criminal's?

LL: I don't think it's difficult to switch. What I find difficult is taking on the mindsets of particularly unpleasant people because it's a tough way to spend a morning.

Spending time in Walter's point of view while writing that novel was not pleasant. I didn't enjoy it and I often felt kind of grimy and depressed after a day of working from his point of view, but it was essential to the book.

N-L: The research and writing must be emotionally and psychologically demanding. Why do you write crime thrillers?

LL: I write crime novels because I think crime is an excellent prism through which to examine a city, society, culture, family.

Crime strips away the top layers and lays bare a lot of things that would otherwise go hidden. It's true whether you're talking about family secrets, certain class issues, certain economic issues.

The crime novel ultimately is a very conservative form. It asserts that there is a status quo and that it's worth returning to.

I'm not necessarily comfortable with that. I don't feel that I'm a conservative person and I certainly don't think that the status quo is always desirable, but that is the function of a crime novel. It's about trying to make things right again.

I would say though that the important thing to remember is while the pieces may be put back together again at the end of a crime novel, nothing is ever quite

the same as it was.

It's like gluing back the pieces of a broken vase. The cracks are there, people won't forget that it was broken or how it came to be broken. At least that's the kind of crime novel I aspire to write.

N-L: Baltimore takes a central role in many of your works, but your newest novel takes place in the suburbs of DC. What was it like writing about a different place?

LL: I like writing about different places. While Baltimore is my preferred subject, it's certainly not the only place I've lived or the only place I know. It's the place I've become most associated with.

In writing about suburban Washington the main thing to keep in mind is I was writing about a character who was somewhat adrift in the world, and so the details are very muted.

They're not very specific. They're not the warm and vivid memories that I draw when I write about Baltimore.

It's very deliberate that everything I mention in *I'd Know You Anywhere* is a chain restaurant or something that feels generic, like a mall, because Eliza isn't really experiencing life in a vivid, intense way.

She's not completely here and now, that's part of what's been taken from her.

N-L: What are you working on next?

LL: I'm working on another novel. It doesn't have a title and it's hard to describe, and it's probably better if I don't try to describe it.

Mount Vernon rocks out with First Thursdays

Local radio station celebrates good weather with outdoor concert series

By PIERCE DELAHUNT
For The News-Letter

Every first Thursday of the month, from May to October, 89.7 WTMD hosts First Thursday, a free outdoor concert by Baltimore's Washington Monument where people picnic and listen to a particular local or nonlocal band.

Last Thursday, WTMD presented Baltimore-based musician ellen cherry, as well as the award-winning R&B artists the Holmes Brothers, from Virginia, to commemorate the beginning of September.

ellen (she goes uncapitalized) is a self-described "singer, songwriter, musician, designer, artist, producer, recording engineer and human" who has performed with Boyz II Men and Jackson Brown, and operates her website at ellencherry.com.

Her song "We Are Baltimore" was commissioned by FOX News to promote the city's sense of community, and was nominated for an Emmy this year.

On Thursday, ellen's folksy and mellow style, complete with a quirky haircut and long comfy dress, made for great picnic accompaniment, and the music itself held up creatively as well.

She also served as hostess and comedienne between songs, and the comedy was very funny, especially a bit about Clark Kent changing into Superman in a Port-a-Potty.

The highlight of the set, though not her own piece, was her cover of "Way Down in the Hole," originally by Tom Waits.

The original version of the song served as the opening

theme for *The Wire* during its five-season run, a true source of pride for a Baltimore enthusiast, which ellen (and much of the crowd) certainly is, making it an appropriately patriotic addition to her set.

The Holmes Brothers, consisting of bassist Sherman, guitarist/pianist Wendell and drummer/brother-in-spirit Pops Dixon, added a blues-rock-funk-country blend to the show.

Their energy, alongside their upbeat spirit, excited the audience and inspired them to dance and mingle.

Rock - ing together since 1967 (they would officially form ten years later), the band's strong experience-based dynamic elicited among the audience the same kind of familiarity they felt on stage.

They performed, among other things, a cover of Willie Nelson's "Opportunity to Cry," which was a great hit.

"You're the Kind of Trouble," an audience favorite, had

a funky upbeat rhythm that worked well with its stop-and-sing chorus that went "You're the kind of trouble I could get into."

First Thursday was a great way to feel like a part of Baltimore, especially when attending a university that sometimes makes you feel as though it wants to cut you off from it.

Local food vendors set up shop around the grassed area, and alcohol was available, though not allowed from outside.

It was easy to get there, as the free JHMI shuttle stops three

blocks away at the Peabody library. Nearby were local Mount Vernon treats like Brewer's Art, Afghan restaurant the Helmand, and independent bookstore café Red Emma's, as well as Peabody itself.

The audience members were excited to meet others and further integrate into the community.

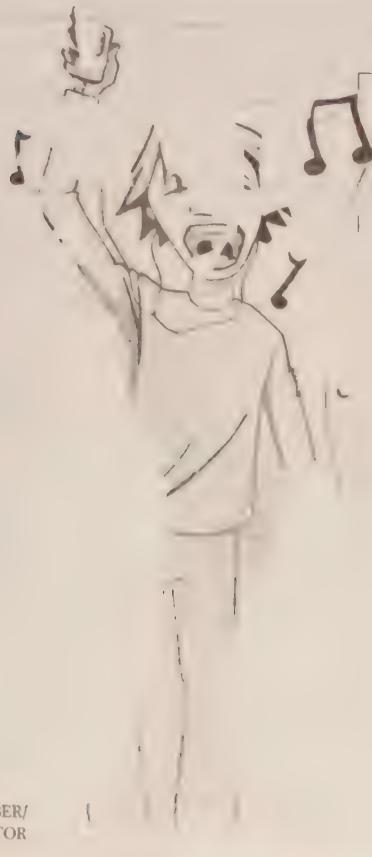
Children, pets, and cameras were all welcome, though pets had to be on a leash.

The next and last First Thursday will be October 7, at 5:30 p.m. Definitely grab some buddies and go.



COURTESY OF PIERCE DELAHUNT
Local folk artist ellen cherry, pictured above, performed last week as part of 89.7 WTMD's First Thursdays.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

ANNE FABER/
GRAPHICS EDITOR

ARTIST
Interpol
ALBUM
Interpol
LABEL
Matador
RELEASED
Sept. 7, 2010

The opening song on Interpol's new self-titled album seems to show tried and true elements of the band which so captivated audiences a la *Turn On the Bright Lights* in 2002. This one is somewhat a returning to form after the relative disappointment of their third studio album, *Our Love to Admire*. "Success," the song that aptly headlines this fourth album, is aggressive yet archetypically Interpolian.

Percussion beats underpin Paul Banks' slowly driving yet haunting vocals, and it all builds up to a typical sound one might expect from a big song coming from a big band.

Interpol is well aware of their status as a now-major group commenting on reaching something in both the band's eponymous album title, as well as the lyrics "I have succeeded / I won't compete for long." But competing they are, both within the space of their past failures and the incredible originality of singles such as "Obstacle 1" and "Untitled" way back in the day. "Success" is somewhat reminiscent of 2004's "Narc" with none of the nonsense of a band still enraptured in the throes of its ascending fame. Here is a much more reserved and confidently demure sound, charged with all the power of substance over show. "Somebody make me say no."

"Memory Serves", the second track, serves as a cool down from the highs of "Success" but still maintains the new percussion underpinning from drummer Sam Fogarino that characterizes this album: "Summer Well", the third track, is a similar non-starter, homogeneous and dry in its blend of decent guitar work drowned

out by percussion. "Lights", the following track, puzzles with its subdued tones, and continues on that theme of indecision with out-of-whack instrumental and vocal synchronization. Lyrics like "Please police me" makes the song seem like it is asking for self-revision, an unpolished fragment from the songwriter's head. There are moments in this song in which music begins to happen, and the high tones of the Interpol we love are tantalizing in their application, but the dominant guitar theme wrecks havoc on what must be a purposefully chaotic sound-in-a-song.

The album's lead single, "Barriade," really just sucks, serving as what can only be a literal barricade towards wider appreciation of this album. Banks' crooning voice runs long in the tooth as the song goes on.

Finally, by the seventh song of this 10 song set,

an interesting beat makes an appearance, accompanied by dissonant guitar work.

Unexpectedly haunting, it stands out as one of the more gripping works here, developing in complexity and tonal texture and even throwing in what sounds like a tambourine to subtle effect.

The concluding sounds begin to creep in by Track 8, "Try It On", but wait, here comes the bridge. "No way, no f***ing way," croons Banks, in a moment that is arguably a vocal and musical high that eclipses "Success" and then some.

Reverberating manipulated fading lyrics add to the haunted mood that fans can identify as the distinct Interpol sound. "All of the Ways", the penultimate track, tries to reflect on a much bigger scale, and "The Undoing", the final track, seems like the typical feel-good closer one might expect to fall here. But come on, a return to form for Interpol means a return to melancholic indecision.

It is all here, along with the tambourine, cycling through two to four separate acts of catharsis that leaves the listener feeling burdened yet relieved when the credits roll.

— Ming Wen

ARTIST
Julia Fischer
ALBUM
Paganini: 24 Caprices Op. 1
LABEL
Decca
RELEASED
Sept. 7, 2010

ess, and many of her past recordings have been an intense, even extreme, display of sheer skill. But *Paganini: 24 Caprices Op. 1* shows off Fischer's abilities and style in a refreshing new way.

Faced with some of the most challenging and exacting works in the violin repertoire, Fischer is extremely poised and confidently asserts her own subtle phrasing, tempos and dynamics as she moves through the challenges of the different Caprices.

Though she is generally known for interpretations that are hyper-literal and conform exactly to a composer's instruc-



Julia Fischer is one of biggest stars in classical music. Certainly she is one of the most famous soloists in the virtuosic landscape of contemporary violinists.

Much of Fischer's appeal stems from her technical prowess.

tions, Fischer approaches this recording with an exciting fluidity and elasticity.

"For the first time . . . I was only looking at the musical background of this piece and completely forgetting the technical challenge," Fischer said in an interview for Decca about the album.

There were certainly artistic challenges associated with tackling the works and developing a unique interpretation.

The 24 Caprices are not frequently recorded, yet Fischer's contribution comes on the heels of the American violinist James Ehnes's Caprice album which

debuted last January. The unusual proximity of these releases begs comparison, and it is easy to see some differences right away.

Where Ehnes is contemplative, Fischer is exuberant. Where he offers deftness, she brings romanticism. They are equally masterful, but emotionally different.

Convention might favor the Ehnes recording, but Fischer's passion is equally obvious and available to the listener. Her treatment of each Caprice, from the familiar number 24 to the less straightforward number 17 (the first Caprice she learned at the age of 10) is meticulous and breathes with intuitive phrasing.

Like many soloists, Fischer often selects one of the Caprices to play as an encore in concerts, but putting all of them in con-

text as a coherent work speaks to her engagement with the pieces.

"The most difficult thing a violinist can play are the 24 Caprices so the moment I started learning them that will be when I really start being a violinist," she said, describing her impression of the pieces as a young child.

The album's only disappointing element is also an endearing one. Fischer wears her heart on her sleeve, displaying her devotion to the project and Paganini's work endlessly and repeatedly. Her enthusiasm is clearly genuine, but is sometimes overwhelming.

"We really forget that most of the music of the 19th century we would not have without Niccolò Paganini."

— Lily Newman

album.

The album's sixth track, "Hollow," is a head-bopper, and by this point in the nine-track release, the listener feels as if he's been coated with a fine layer of !!!'s (Eyjafjallajökull, Eyjafjallajökull, Eyjafjallajökull's?) ash.

The long instrumental segments of the closing track, "The Hammer," are an attempt to hypnotize rather than stimulate, making for a flatline ending to an overall mellow collection.

While the pace and punch of this newest album may reveal a softer, and perhaps more grooveable, side of the dance-punk group, the repetitive noise of many of the tracks seem to just be extra "stuff."

Unlike the low-key but transforming melodies in older albums, the tracks of *Strange Weather, Isn't It?* make the listener want the head-bashing rather than head-lulling, grimy rather than humdrum tunes, of the earlier !!!.

— Phyllis Zhu

NEW VIBRATIONS

END YOUR SUMMER WITH SOME OF THESE SIZZLIN' JAMS

ARTIST
The Thermals
ALBUM
Personal Life
LABEL
Kill Rock Stars
RELEASED
Sept. 7, 2010

Strangely enough, it's possible to be a little too pretty. Sometimes, something is a little too orchestrated, too glossy, like a paint-by-numbers — except you can still see the numbers showing through.

Every note seems perfectly calibrated to exert the maximum effect, and while it can work superficially, there's still a sense that some raw heart is lacking. That's the problem with The Thermals' fifth album, *Personal Life*; though the album on the whole is listenable and pretty enjoyable, the Portland-based indie band could have done more,

like injecting some more spunk, urgency, and personality into the 10 cuts that make up the album.

Front man Hutch Harris is probably the most unique aspect of this three-person outfit, although not always in a good way. His vocals are distinctly nasal and somewhat operatic, soaring and crisply accented, a bit like a swirl between The Mountain Goats' John Darnielle and The Decemberists' Colin Meloy.

Sometimes Harris is endearingly earnest, like on opener "I'm Gonna Change Your Life" where he howls "I wanna know your feelings / I wanna know your shame . . . I'm gonna change your life!" and as the guitars chug along behind him and the acoustics swell, you can't help but believe he'll do just that.

The Thermals is at their best when their energy is high, like on "I Don't Believe You," the album's second track, with its charming "whoa oh ohhhh" harmonies, Harris' call-and-response vocals, and the fiery instrumentation. The eighth track, "Your Love Is So Strong" resurfaces that momentum, and though the lyrics are a bit vague ("Your love is so

strong / Like nothing it melts in the rain"), the group comes together well on the harmonies, making this a fuzzy punkish ballad that wears its heart on its sleeve.

Meanwhile, "Only For You," the sixth track, is another standout, brewing some bitterness in its slow-burning instrumentation and lines like "I'm cut for you / If only to cushion your fall . . . my love."

It is this sort of sneering, slightly punk attitude that helps The Thermals hit their mark, and if the rest of *Personal Life* kept up this sort of groove, it would've been a far more resonant release.

The problem is, a lot of these tracks are too interchangeable, and the songwriting leaves a bit to be desired, tossing around big themes and emotions but not rooting anything in the vivid little details that make artists like, say, The Mountain Goats



so painfully relatable. And for a band whose third release was a concept album dealing with struggles to escape a totalitarian Christian regime, this batch of songs can't help but fall a bit flat in comparison.

They still belt out their songs with a fancy-free enthusiasm, but it is like the listener can hear the band behind the scenes cobbling these cuts together, saying "This is where the epic chorus goes, this is where the hook kicks in, this is where we harmonize." It all looks good in the end — songs like "Never Listen To Me" and "Power Lies" are charmingly catchy in the moment — but end up feeling flimsy and too disposable.

Not a success, but not a failure either, *Personal Life* has a handful of strong cuts worth checking out, even The Thermals could have done more with it.

— Melanie Love

ARTIST
Arcade Fire
ALBUM
The Suburbs
LABEL
Merge
RELEASED
Aug. 2, 2010

Upon first listen, *The Suburbs*, Canadian indie-powerhouse Arcade Fire's third studio album, doesn't sound like much.

It doesn't boast tracks that are as singularly powerful as *Funeral's* "Wake Up" and "Rebellion (Lies)", nor ones that are as grandiose as *Neon Bible's* "Black Mirror".

But while Arcade Fire's earlier albums showcased an almost adolescent angst, a fear of being abandoned and agony about the impending destruction of the world, *The Suburbs* is its grown-up counterpart, concentrating on the realities of responsibility and the acerbity of adult disappointments.

The album as a whole is darker, subtler, and less prone to overblown arrangements a la *Neon Bible*, but the subtlety, both musically and thematically, doesn't make it any less profound.

If anything, where *Neon Bible* made universal declarations and harped on the problems of society as a whole, *The Suburbs* stays focused on the plight of the individual, leading to an overall more personal listening experience.

The Suburbs opens with the titular track, a haunting piece that utilizes a delicate melody and speaks of disillusionment

that comes with bland suburbia and broken marriages.

Vocalist Win Butler croons softly about the loss of enchantment and energy, which is reflected in the restrained music, a far departure from *Funeral's* and *Neon Bible's* ornate overtures.

"Ready to Start", the album's second track and first single, has a more powerful rhythm than the first, drawing on a hammering drum beat and boisterous vocals to send the listener down a stream of anger and regret.

"Businessmen drink my blood/Like the kids in art school said they would," Butler sings, reminding the listener that the days of unbridled possibility and imagination have come to an end; there's no time to float on the ethereal melodies of *Funeral's* "Haiti," or pump out the youthful, idealistic lyrics of *Neon Bible's* "Intervention."

The Suburbs' two best offerings, third track "Modern Man" and the penultimate track "Sprawl II (Mountains Beyond Mountains)", are polar opposites in composition, but are equally haunting and penetrating.

"M o d e r n Man" starts out with pumping percussions and

Butler's falsetto vocals, the lyrics sticking to images of ticking clocks, lines and numbers, reminding us of the assembly-line structures our lives form when we resign ourselves to adulthood.

The title and lyrics alike are reminiscent, perhaps accidentally, of Charlie Chaplin's 1936 film, *Modern Times*, a comedic social commentary on modern industrialization, and an appropriate reference for *The Suburbs'* overall theme of assimilation and the death of personal creativity.

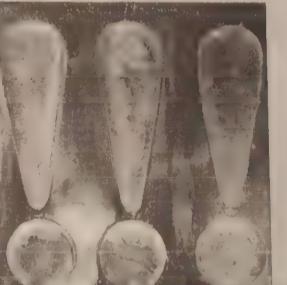
"Sprawl II", on the other



hand, is a thumping, energetic epic that paints pictures of light and dark, mountains and shopping malls, freedom and failure. Régine Chassagne, Arcade Fire's other main member (and Butler's wife) lends her silky soprano as lead vocalist, resulting in a more fantastical feel.

The lyrics of "Sprawl II" are as sad and hopeless as the rest of the album's songs, but somehow the rambling, thrilling melody and twinkling synth notes send up a sense of optimism, a return to Arcade Fire's old, rebellious self.

"Sprawl II" reminds us that while Arcade Fire may be getting older, they haven't quite



maintains itself at a cool, two-steppable funk, particularly in "The Most Certain Sure" and the appropriately and cleverly titled fourth track, "Jamie, My Intentions are Bass."

While the Brooklyn-based band sounds like they're undergoing a lyrical and vocal cooling in *Strange Weather, Isn't It?* — as we don't hear too much of front man Nic Offer's signature gravelly and punctuating delivery — !!! seems to be grooving to a tamer beat in terms of the album's rhythmic and tonal variety.

In tracks like "Wannagain Wannagain" and "Steady as the Sidewalk Cracks," the interjections of the saxophone are noticeably subtler and less creatively arranged than in, say, their 2004 single "Pardon My Freedom." The jiving vocals of "Wannagain Wannagain," however, does make it one of the more playful tracks of the

album.

The album's sixth track, "Hollow," is a head-bopper, and by this point in the nine-track release, the listener feels as if he's been coated with a fine layer of !!!'s (Eyjafjallajökull, Eyjafjallajökull, Eyjafjallajökull's?) ash.

The long instrumental segments of the closing track, "The Hammer," are an attempt to hypnotize rather than stimulate, making for a flatline ending to an overall mellow collection.

While the pace and punch of this newest album may reveal a softer, and perhaps more grooveable, side of the dance-punk group, the repetitive noise of many of the tracks seem to just be extra "stuff."

Unlike the low-key but transforming melodies in older albums, the tracks of *Strange Weather, Isn't It?* make the listener want the head-bashing rather than head-lulling, grimy rather than humdrum tunes, of the earlier !!!.

— Phyllis Zhu



Fischer approaches this recording with an exciting fluidity and elasticity.

"For the first time . . . I was only looking at the musical background of this piece and completely forgetting the technical challenge," Fischer said in an interview for Decca about the album.

There were certainly artistic challenges associated with tackling the works and developing a unique interpretation.

The 24 Caprices are not frequently recorded, yet Fischer's contribution comes on the heels of the American violinist James Ehnes's Caprice album which

debuted last January. The unusual proximity of these releases begs comparison, and it is easy to see some differences right away.

Where Ehnes is contemplative, Fischer is exuberant. Where he offers deftness, she brings romanticism. They are equally masterful, but emotionally different.

Convention might favor the Ehnes recording, but Fischer's passion is equally obvious and available to the listener. Her treatment of each Caprice, from the familiar number 24 to the less straightforward number 17 (the first Caprice she learned at the age of 10) is meticulous and breathes with intuitive phrasing.

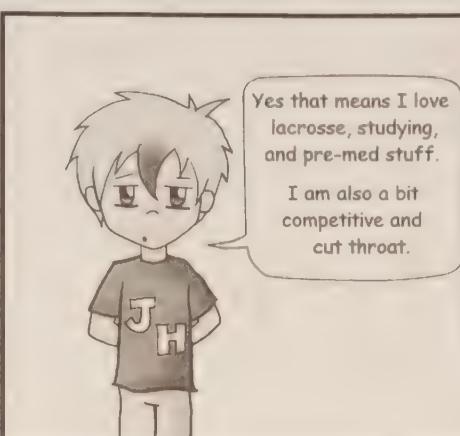
Like many soloists, Fischer often selects one of the Caprices to play as an encore in concerts, but putting all of them in con-

text as a coherent work speaks to her engagement with the pieces.

"The most difficult thing a violinist can play are the 24 Caprices so the moment I started learning them that will be when I

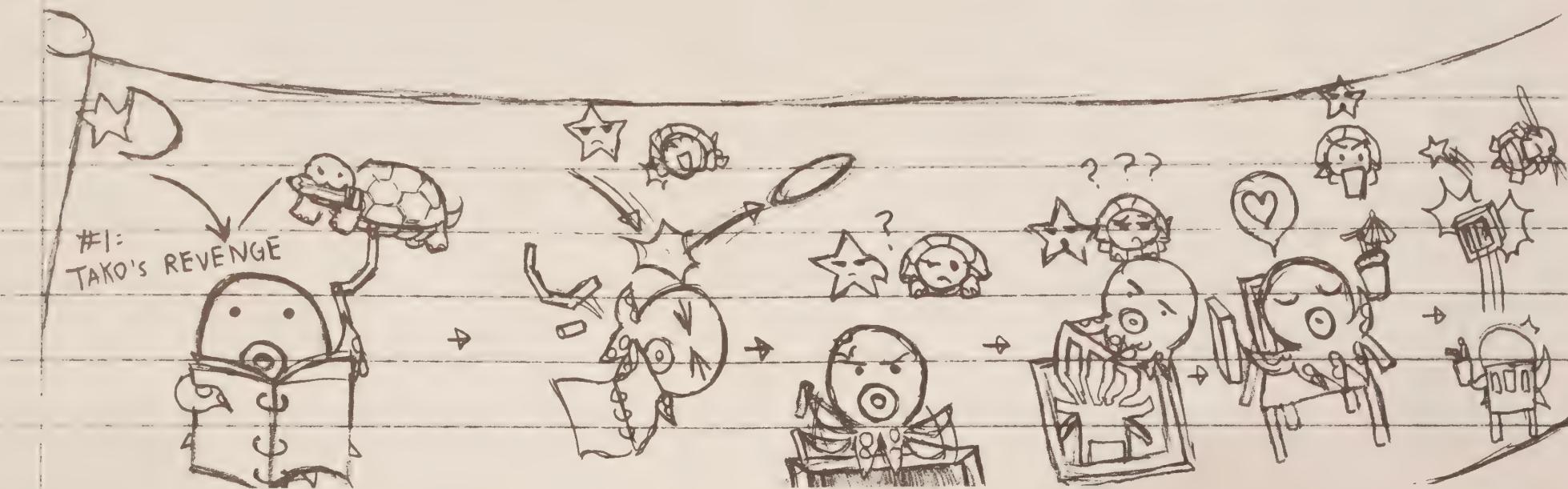
CARTOONS, ETC.

Blue Jay Brigade



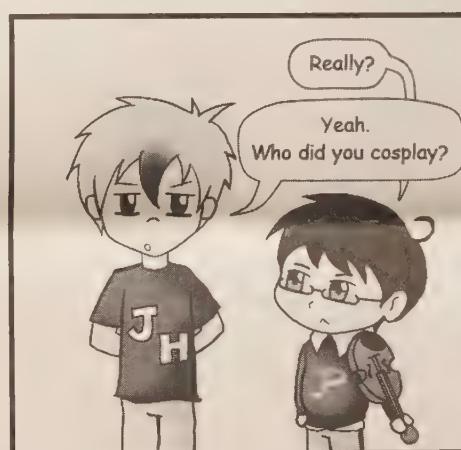
By Kevin Stoll Li

Margin Notes



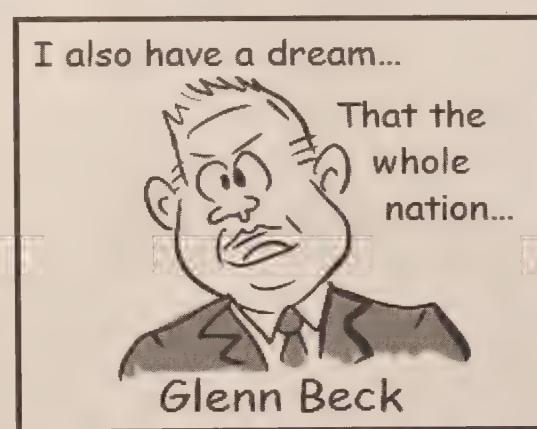
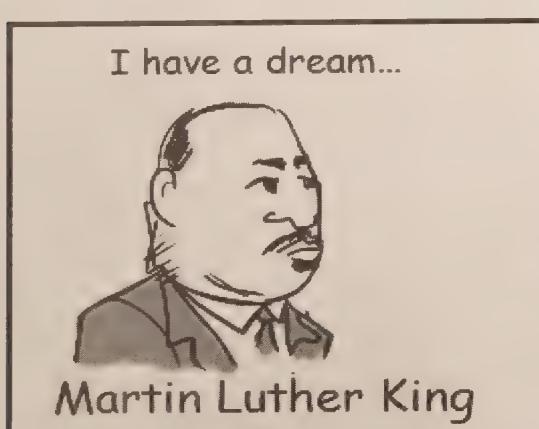
By Kevin Stoll Li

Blue Jay Brigade



*Otakon is a Japanese pop-culture convention that takes place in Baltimore's Inner Harbor during summer.

Good Night and Good Luck

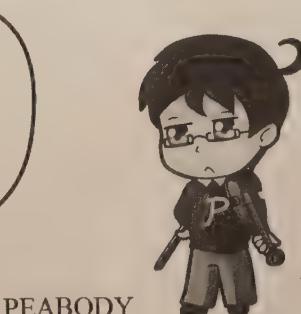
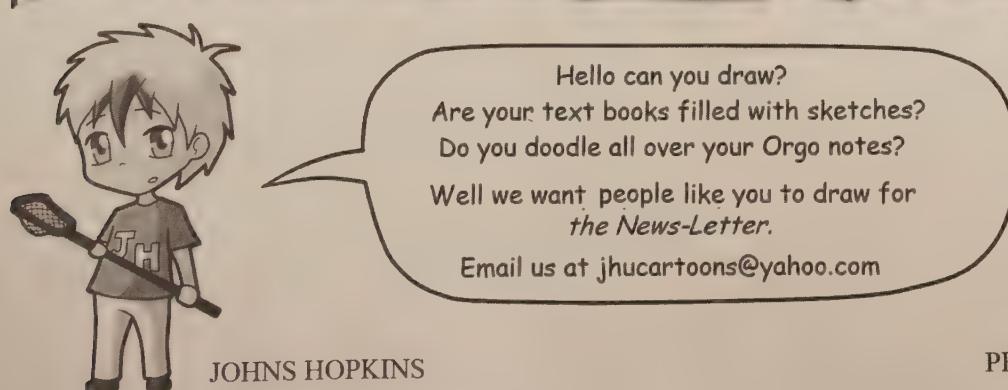
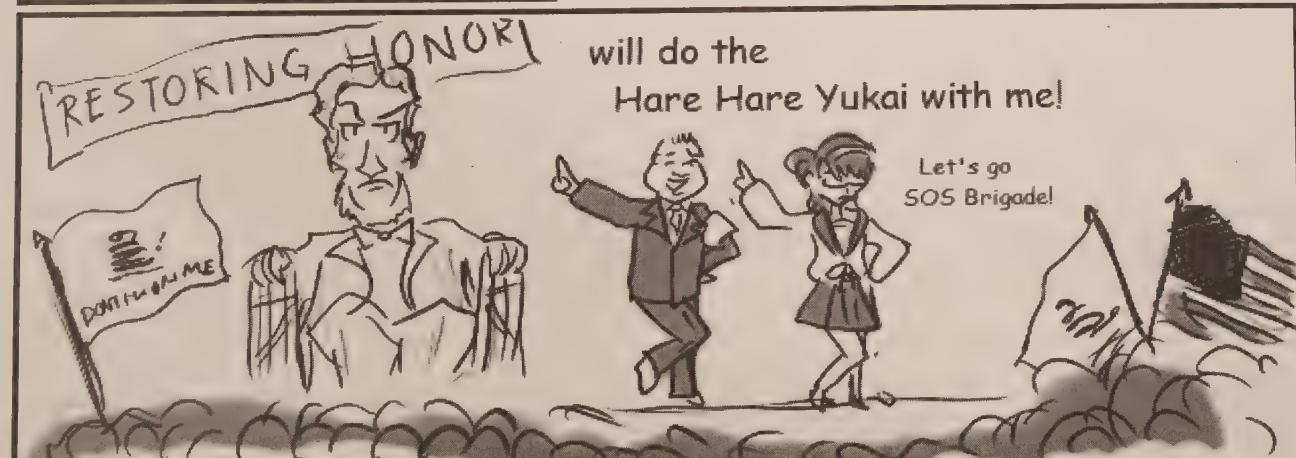


By Kevin Stoll Li

Saumya Gurbani
Pun Intended

As I start to live off campus this year I am, beginning to realize certain things. Like that sliced bread is the greatest thing since loafed bread.

Welcome class of 2014. May Hopkins be the yeast in the oven of life.

Challenging Sudoku(s) sudoku.binaryworlds.com

4		5	2		6	7		3
1	5		7		3	8		2
2		6		1	5	8	4	7
			4	9	7	2	4	9
2	3	6		5	1	4	3	2
7	5	8	2	6	3	6	9	5
3		8				6		5
	9	7	1	3	1	3	2	1
8		4			5	2	3	9

7		3			9	8		
3	5	9	2		6	5	3	8
4		6			4	5	6	7
9	8		5	1	3	6	7	3
	5	4	8	1	5	2	9	4
			6	5	8	3	8	6
9		7		2	3	1	9	3
7	8		4		5	4	2	1
4		6	1		6	1	9	8

See these cartoons in full color at <http://jhucartoons.deviantart.com/>

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

JHU scientists discover new way to study dark energy

By SAM OHMER
For The News-Letter

How do you see the invisible? That's exactly the question astronomers and astrophysicists have been trying to answer ever since the 1998 discovery of the mysterious and elusive "dark energy" by Saul Perlmutter and colleagues.

Now Eric Jullo, Priyamvada Natarajan and Jean-Paul Kneib of the Jet Propulsion Lab at Yale University, and The Astrophysics Lab in Marseille, France, respectively, are continuing the quest for answers concerning just what dark energy is.

The team has ingeniously used dark energy's most striking feature against itself: its pervasiveness. While 72 percent of the known universe is made of dark energy, only 4 percent is made of "normal" matter — the stuff that makes up you and I and your pet dog Fido and this very article. Because that is the case, dark energy has a lot of "weight" to throw around (metaphorically speaking); dark energy isn't made of any particles as far as scientists can tell, and it doesn't actually have any mass).

With so much dark energy hanging out in the cosmos, it's bound to have some far-reaching and noticeable consequences — and by observing and measuring those effects, Jullo et al. have been able to use pre-existing cameras loaded onto the Hubble Telescope to more accurately measure dark energy's ef-

tects in space.

More accurate mappings of the mysterious stuff might also allow scientists to finally pin down just what dark energy is — and how it is able to increase the expansion rate of our universe.

To make this new discovery, Jullo et. al. had to take advantage of some special galactic clusters out in the cosmos. These collections of galaxies bring a lot of mass very close together, from our perspective on Earth and the Hubble Telescope, which is an integral part of the group's technique.

Such a massive clustering causes what is called gravitational lensing: so much mass is clumped together that the mass of the galaxies has the ability to affect the light that is shining at it. From Earth, this can create multiple images of a single cosmological object.

Scientists record, measure and analyze the effects of gravitational lensing and the multiple images it produces and then compare the actual images produced with those predicted by mathematical models. They can then define with precision how the dark energy in the clusters and the space between stars and galaxies are affecting their measurements.

In fact, the team has been able to define dark energy's presence and effects in our universe with up to a 30 percent increase in accuracy, according to Jullo.

Jullo and colleagues are interested in how the galactic cluster

SEE DARK ENERGY, PAGE B9

Hopkins professors appointed to nanotech panel

Two experts in nanobiotechnology will make recommendations to Maryland's governor on policies, job creation

By MALI WIEDERKEHR
For The News-Letter

Two Hopkins professors, Peter Searson and Steve Desiderio, were recently appointed by Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley to join the Governor's Task Force in an effort to study the emerging advantages of nanobiotechnology.

Nanotechnology concerns materials at the atomic and molecular scale. Nanobiotechnology aims to utilize these materials and apply them in biology and medicine.

The most idealistic predictions of the applications of nanotechnology in medicine envision nanoscale robots that can be injected into the body that would repair or maintain the organism's tissues and cells. But for the near future, some of the applications include screening blood or urine samples for biological markers using nanocrystals.

The Governor's office appointed the Governor's Task Force in order to explore nanotechnology as it applies to a broad range of topics including job creation, medicine and medical equipment, healthcare cost, electronics, and commercial products.

According to Searson, the state of Maryland is considerably involved in Nanobiotechnology research and education, especially through the Hopkins Institute for NanoBioTechnology, and thus



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One of the many applications of nanotechnology in medicine is the use of quantum dots, which can help in visualizing cells.

has the potential to become at the forefront of this field.

"The Institute for Nanobiotechnology . . . at Johns Hopkins, has a unique combination of resources to support current and future efforts required to build a robust nanobiotechnology industry in Maryland,"

wrote Searson in an e-mail to The News-Letter.

In 2006, Searson helped found the Hopkins Institute for NanoBioTechnology, which he currently directs. He is a professor of Materials Science and Engineering at the Whiting School for Engineering, and his interests span nanoscience, biophysics and bioengineering.

Desiderio is a professor of Molecular Biology and Genetics at the Hopkins School of Medicine. He is also director of the Institute of Basic Biomedical Sciences and director of the Immunobiology Program at the Institute for Cell Engineering. Both professors are interested in nanobiotechnology research.

Other members of the Task Force include Nariman Farvardin, Peter Swaan, Esther Chang, Lisbeth Pettengill, Patrick Lu and Lawrence Tamarkin. The Task Force is chaired by Senator Jennie Forehand and Delegate Susan Lee.

[The Task Force will study] the generation of revenue for the state and improvements to the quality of life for the state's citizens and the state's role in supporting Maryland's leadership in nanobiotechnology . . . and make recommendations regarding actions that the state should take to promote the growth of the nanobiotechnology industries in the state," the governor's office said in a statement.

The creation of the Task Force is also a step toward determining the safety of such materials in biological applications. Some previous studies have suggested that nanomaterials can produce harmful effects within the body.

Nonetheless, nanobiotechnology offers a range of potential improvements in biology and medicine, and having two experienced Hopkins researchers on the Governor's Task Force will help propel nanobiotechnology forward.

Scientists map how epigenome changes in development

By ALEENA LAKHANPAL
For The News-Letter

A team of scientists, including Hopkins researchers, have recently discovered a method to map out the human epigenome — modifications to our chromosomes that regulate which of our genes are expressed and which are silent.

Although your genes are largely determined as soon as fertilization occurs, and change very little during your lifetime, modifications that change which regions of your DNA are expressed also have a huge influence on you.

These types of modifications are known as epigenetic modifications, and while they do not change your actual DNA sequence, they can stay with you for the rest of your life — and maybe even longer. One type of epigenetic modification occurs during cellular differentiation, when a totipotent cell becomes pluripotent, and eventually differentiates into the cell type it will be for the rest of its life.

Andrew Feinberg, MD, MPH of the Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics and his team, including Irving Weissman at Stanford and Hopkins statistician Martin Aryee, have been studying the correlation between cellular differentiation and epigenetics.

Feinberg's experiments used hematopoiesis as a model to better understand epigenetic modification. "Hematopoiesis is the progressive differentiation of stem cells that can give rise to different types of blood cells," Feinberg wrote in an email to

The News-Letter. As the cells develop, they encounter stages of lineage restriction, becoming granulocyte or lymphocyte progenitors and eventually maturing into T cells and B cells.

Using this progression of differentiation, Feinberg was able to have a specific model for tracking the presence and types of epigenetic modifications, thus creating a map showing the lineage of different cell types.

"[We used] a method we developed to examine the 'methylation,' or sites of potential DNA methylation, comprehensively across the genome on microarrays containing millions of bits of the genome," Feinberg wrote.

Methylation of DNA is one of the most widely studied mechanisms of epigenetic modification and has been seen to "silence" genes. Methylated genes are not expressed in the phenotype and are not transcriptionally active.

Feinberg's motivation for creating the lineage maps stems from historical curiosity.

"There had been no comprehensive map of differentiation previously in a complex species such as humans, and we wanted to know the nature of the epigenetic landscape predicted 75 years ago by the English embryologist Conrad Waddington," Feinberg wrote.

"Epigenetics is at the heart of differentiation, since it involves changes that cells remember without a change in DNA sequence per se."

While this was mostly a basic science study, it has clinical and medical benefits.

"It provides a map for understanding how differentiation might occur abnormally, such as in leukemia. It also allows one to predict the lineage restriction of induced pluripotent stem cells," Feinberg says. In 18 months of experimentation, Feinberg's team also produced a companion paper showing that such induced pluripotent stem cells are not necessarily fully reprogrammed back to a stem-like state.

While who you are is based on your DNA, how your cells develop from zygote to death is also dependent on epigenetic modifications, which Feinberg's team has led us to better understand.

The next step for this study, Feinberg says, is the application of his map method. He wrote, "We could apply the same tools to understand how differentiation progresses abnormally in leukemia and aging."

While who you are is based on your DNA, how your cells develop from zygote to death is also dependent on epigenetic modifications, which Feinberg's team has led us to better understand.

Unique receptors may be target for chronic pain management

By JEFFREY SIEGEL
For The News-Letter

How do you treat chronic pathological pain? Right now, the best option involves the use of a class of powerful painkillers — opiates — that are often addictive and can produce harmful side effects.

However, there may be a new option for chronic pain. Researchers at Hopkins have identified a class

of receptors (complex proteins in the body that receive and "process" chemical signals), the Mrgpr family . . . may constitute a novel . . . inhibitory mechanism for regulating persistent pain.

—YUN GUAN,
PROFESSOR OF
ANESTHESIOLOGY

"However, the roles of Mrgprs in sensory processing of pain, especially pathological pain, remain unclear," Guan said.

In order to better understand the role of Mrgprs in pain signaling, Xinzong Dong, Assistant Professor of Neuroscience at Hopkins School of Medicine, developed a line of Mrgpr-knockout (KO) mice, which do not express the Mrgprs. "KO mice show prolonged mechanical and thermal pain hypersensitivity after hind paw inflammation, compared to wild-type (WT) littermates," Guan said, something he demonstrated in an earlier study. Wild-type mice are ordinary mice, with functional Mrgprs; they are more sensitive to pain after inflammation

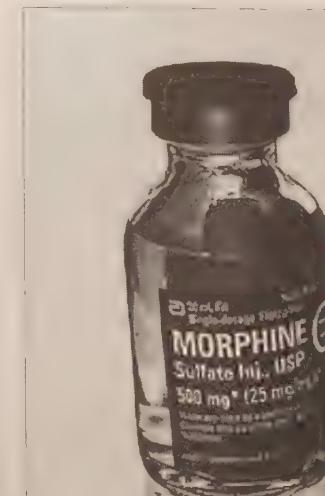
than WT mice shows that Mrgprs are involved in pain signaling. More recently, Guan found that knocking out the Mrgprs enhances the response of certain neurons, which subsequently triggers central pain sensitization. He also found that KO mice had no response to bovine adrenal medulla peptide 8-22 (BAM 8-22), a compound that activates the MrgprC receptor and acts as a painkiller.

Nociceptive afferent sensory neurons carry pain signals from the body to the brain. Since the Mrgprs are only found there, it seems likely that they are involved in how we sense pain.

"Mrgprs may be compelling new pain-specific targets for pain therapy by virtue of their restricted distribution in nociceptive afferent sensory neurons," Yun Guan, an assistant professor of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine at Hopkins, said.

Nociceptive afferent sensory neurons carry pain signals from the body to the brain. Since the Mrgprs are only found there, it seems likely that they are involved in how we sense pain.

Further, Guan found that when BAM 8-22 was administered to the normal mice, the neurons expressed a significantly attenuated response. However, this effect was eliminated in KO



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mice.

"Members of the Mrgpr family, in particular MrgprC, may constitute a novel endogenous inhibitory mechanism for regulating persistent pain in mice," Guan said. In short, activating MrgprC seems to reduce chronic pain.

Compounds that selectively activate the Mrgprs should have few side effects, since the Mrgprs are only expressed in a highly specific region of the brain. In contrast, opiates have widespread neurological effects.

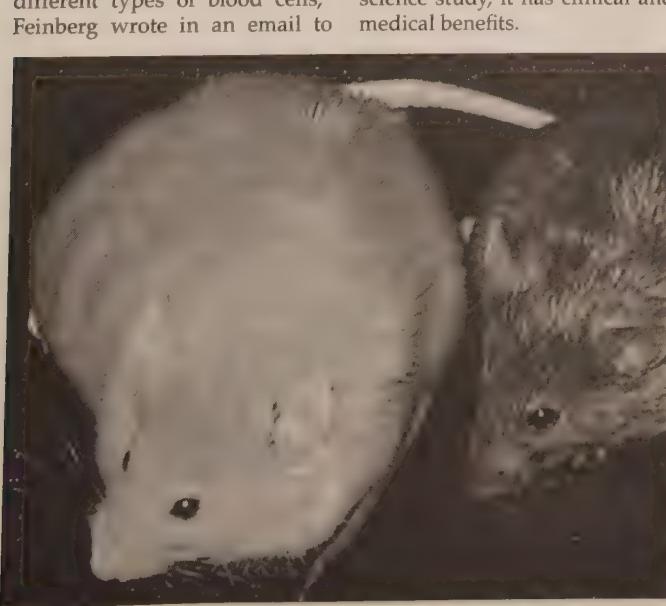
Opiates bind to receptors that are widely expressed throughout the central nervous system, so dose-limiting adverse effects like sedation and cognitive dysfunction, and perceived risks of addiction and abuse, present substantial barriers to their clinical use," said Guan.

Drugs that target receptors expressed widely will have more

side effects than drugs that target receptors expressed in highly specific locations.

More work still needs to be done. "Additional functional and mechanistic studies are needed to elucidate details of Mrgpr-mediated pain-inhibitory mechanisms in chronic pain setting," Guan said. The specific function of the Mrgpr in pain signaling, and the mechanism by which it acts to inhibit pain, needs to be determined.

Guan plans to conduct further studies into the Mrgpr, which would contribute to future high-throughput screening for new agonists (compounds that activate a receptor) of the MrgprX1 receptor, which is the equivalent of MrgprC in humans. These agonists may be useful drugs for patients who respond poorly or develop tolerance to opiate-based painkillers.



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Genetically identical mice can show significant differences because of DNA methylation.

Undersea vehicles investigate Gulf oil plume

By DAN CADEL
For The News-Letter

Almost two months after oil stopped flowing into the Gulf of Mexico, attention is focused on the lasting effects of the spill. A new paper from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) in Massachusetts suggests the spill may be more serious than previously thought. Using the autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) Sentry, researchers tracked an underwater oil plume in late June, while oil was still leaking.

The landmark events of the oil spill have prompted well-publicized responses on many fronts. The Obama administration issued a moratorium on new deep-water drilling in the Gulf. BP, the British company that operated the Deepwater Horizon well, named an American as its new CEO.

Many of the nation's top engi-

neers and scientists worked to seal the leak, while others, such as the researchers at WHOI explored the extent of the damage. WHOI's underwater vehicle searched and studied submerged oil originating from the Deepwater Horizon leak.

According to the paper, the researchers, led by Richard Camilli, tracked a plume originating at the source and continuing at least 35 kilometers (about 22 miles) out. The highest concentration was found to be at a depth of 1160 meters.

Tracking was stopped when Hurricane Alex created conditions unsuitable for research. At this point though, concentrations of indicator ions were still comparably high. This suggests that the oil plume extends even further, beyond the area where the research was conducted.

Data was collected by means of mass spectrometers, totaling thousands of discrete sample measurements.



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Undersea vehicles have been investigating the effects of the oil spill, including underwater plumes of oil



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The AUV Sentry tracked an oil plume from the spill to a location 35 km away.

Childhood obesity shows disturbing trends

By VIVEK SINANAN
For The News-Letter

A study published in the International Journal of Pediatric Obesity in August found significant disparities among ethnic groups in terms of shifts in the distribution of weight gain in American children.

The article, co-authored by May A. Beydoun and Youfa Wang, both of the Center for Human Nutrition in the Bloomberg School of Public Health, focuses not on the prevalence of obesity in children and adolescents, as most studies have done. Instead, it examines changes in the distribution of adiposity (or fat content) in young Americans.

In order to accurately measure these changes, the researchers investigated several methods by which adiposity is measured, namely body mass index (BMI), waist circumference (WC) and tricep skinfold thickness (TST).

TST can be measured by pinching the layer of skin and fat above the triceps muscle and measuring the thickness of this layer.

In order to observe changes, Beydoun and Wang obtained data from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys (NHANES) for the years 1988-1994 and 1999-2004 for children ages two to 19.

The difference between the changes in the mean (or adjusted mean shift) BMI, WC and TST for Non-Hispanic whites, non-Hispanic blacks and Mexican-Americans were compared to each other.

From the data collected, several general observations were made. First, the adjusted mean shift in WC and TST was higher for girls than boys. The opposite was true for BMI. Since BMI is considered the least accurate measurement of a person's adiposity because it does not account for several factors, including muscle mass, these results suggest that girls are gaining fat more quickly than are boys.

The researchers also observed that if the data was split into age groups — two to five (infants), six to 11 (pre-pubescent) and 12 to 19 (adolescents) — the adjusted mean shift for BMI, WC and TST increased as age increased. In other words, the rate of fat gain accelerates as children age.

Adjusted mean shift was compared by race in nine categories. These categories included boys, girls and both genders for all three adiposity measurements of BMI, WC and TST. They found that Non-Hispanic blacks had the highest mean adjusted shift

in five categories, and Mexican-Americans led in the remaining four categories.

They also noted that children who were already in the higher percentiles of BMI, WC and TST, that is children who were already obese, gained adiposity at a faster rate than persons in the lower percentiles.

The researchers also recognized that the rate of increase for waist circumference was larger than that for body mass index increase across both genders when taken separately and together, all age groups and all races except for six to 11 year olds.

Childhood obesity can bring a slew of physical and mental health problems, and may have serious consequences later in adulthood.

According to a 2005 study which Wang helped conduct, WC was revealed to be a better predictor than BMI of future health problems, such as Type 2 diabetes, especially among men. Therefore, their data suggests that the future health of the American population is in greater jeopardy than previously thought, since a majority of past studies have focused on changes in BMI.

"The increase in waist/central obesity is more alarming than BMI," Wang wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "[This affects] the heavy group more than the others, and this will post greater health risks."

Waist circumference may be a better indication of future health risks. Previous studies have shown that "apple-shaped" people, with most of their fat content around their waists, are more likely to develop health problems than "pear-shaped" people.

In interpreting the data according to age groups, they theorized that the reason behind higher adjusted mean shifts among older children could be due to the fact that adolescents more actively participate in making the choices that impact their health.

The researchers acknowledged that the reasons behind the large ethnic disparities in adiposity gains were poorly understood. However, they cited past studies that point to strong environmental and genetic contributors.

"Our study indicated that some segment of the US population is more likely to respond to environmental changes than the less susceptible," Wang wrote.

Currently, more than two-thirds of adults in the United States and one-third of children are overweight or obese. The research conducted by Beydoun

and Wang suggest that this is only going to increase in coming years.

However they hope that their investigation of the relationship between adiposity and socio-demographic factors like age, gender and ethnicity will lead to a more concerted effort to understand what is causing this continued rise and a serious attempt to stem it.

Louis Whitcomb, a professor of Mechanical Engineering at Hopkins, focuses his research on similar underwater vehicles. Earlier in the summer, he collaborated with Camilli and others on a project sanctioned by the Coast Guard to measure the flow of oil from the leak. Using an acoustic Doppler current profiler, which uses 4 beams to measure at different angles, they were able to measure both the velocity of the jet as well as the cross-sectional area. With this information, they calculated the flow rate, which turned out to be higher than previous estimates. "All the other [estimates] have come up to meet ours; we haven't changed ours at all," Whitcomb said.

Researchers based at the Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology at the Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health have been developing a malaria vaccine based on a non-pathogenic and non-vertebrate insect virus, or "baculovirus." These are promising new alternatives to current malaria multi-stage vaccines.

Malaria cases are caused by transmission of a parasite via a mosquito bite, the most lethal form of which is *P. falciparum*. The malaria parasite, which is located in a mosquito's mid-gut, can be stopped by antibodies that are directed at antigens on the parasite's surface. These anti-

bodies reduce or limit transmission of the parasite, and are synthesized by the body in response to the presentation of the antigen. This concept is known as a transmission-blocking vaccine, an idea that the researcher's employed for their study.

Godfree Mlambo, of the Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, was one of the authors of the study. The study involved generating recombinant, or genetically modified, baculovirus that displayed a transmission-blocking vaccine candidate called Pfs25.

This new vaccine vector is attractive for several reasons. It has low toxicity in the body, it cannot replicate in mammalian cells, and it is free of pre-existing antibodies, which eliminates any

Scientists find biomarkers for increased heart disease risk

By LINDSEY HUTZLER
For The News-Letter

nearly 100,000 individuals of European descent had their serum lipids analyzed.

The blood serum was analyzed for levels of total cholesterol, HDL (high-density lipoproteins, or "good cholesterol," which remove cholesterol from arteries and transport it to the liver so that it may be carried out of the body), LDL (low-density lipoproteins, or "bad cholesterol," which tend to promote cardiac issues) and triglycerides.

A fair portion of the biomarkers indicating risk of CAD in these individuals were identical for both those of European and non-European ancestry.

Furthermore, the researchers found an association between biomarkers and CAD that had not been previously established. They identified single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) that are located near biomarkers known to regulate lipid production (these are known as CYP7A1, NPC1L1 and SCARB1).

Individuals whose genomes contain with certain biomarkers are more likely to develop the disease. Researchers hope to improve pharmaceutical treatments that prevent the development of CAD in individuals with these biomarkers.

The research was done by scientists working together in the US and UK, and the results were published in *Nature*.



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Europeans and non-Europeans may share similar biomarkers for coronary artery disease.

Virus-based vaccines show promise for malaria prevention

A virus originally found in insects and harmless to humans is modified to deliver vaccine particles.

By MO-YU ZHOU
For The News-Letter

Researchers based at the Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology at the Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health have been developing a malaria vaccine based on a non-pathogenic and non-vertebrate insect virus, or "baculovirus." These are promising new alternatives to current malaria multi-stage vaccines.

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bodies reduce or limit transmission of the parasite, and are synthesized by the body in response to the presentation of the antigen. This concept is known as a transmission-blocking vaccine, an idea that the researcher's employed for their study.

Baculovirus particles expressing Pfs25 on the surface were discovered in the laboratory. The study showed that mice immunized with this baculovirus produced high levels of antibodies specific to Pfs25. These results, which were similar for intranasal and intramuscular immunizations, showed the potential effectiveness of vaccines in the form of whole virus particles, even through an intranasal route.

Due to safety concerns and discomfort associated with needles, intranasal or oral immunization is an attractive option, even for diseases that are not transmitted nasally. In fact, the baculovirus, when administered intranasally, was shown to have the additional benefit of protecting mice from a lethal dose of influenza.

Mlambo's co-author, Nirbhay Kumar of the Bloomberg School of Public Health and the Tulane University School of Public Health & Tropical Medicine, explained, "The main goal of our research is to develop a vaccine to stop transmission of human malaria." The parasites transmitted by female anopheline mosquitoes annually infect more than 500 million people worldwide, two

million of which are children. In previous cases, the baculovirus has been effective as a vaccine target, but proper delivery has been an issue. In addition, the researchers have been involved in testing the functional outcomes of giving vaccinations. This latest research takes into account such previous studies,

as well as the mouse model for testing human malaria transmission, marking a step forward in malaria research.

Although more work remains to be done, the researchers are optimistic about their findings. "If successful," Kumar said,

This type of vaccine could play a significant role in contributing towards the gradual elimination of malaria in different regions.

**—NIRBHAY KUMAR,
BLOOMBERG SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH**



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A potential new vaccine for malaria focuses on blocking transmission of the parasite.

vaccine could play a significant role in contributing towards the gradual elimination of malaria in different regions of the world... [and] induce an effective immunity to this parasitic disease."

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Briefs in Space

NASA images show moon may be shrinking

According to images taken by the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO), recently-formed cliffs on the moon's surface may indicate that the moon is shrinking.

In collaboration with researchers from Hopkins, Brown University, Arizona State Uni-

versity and Cornell University, NASA researchers identified the cliffs, called lobate scarps, which may have formed less than a billion years ago.

This age, which is relatively young in terms of a solar object, will help scientists understand the geological processes of the moon as well as other bodies in the solar system.

Images of the scarps indicate that they are relatively small, with the highest at 300 feet tall. These values suggest that the radius of the moon decreased by



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The Viking missions, although very successful, did not find evidence for life on the planet.

approximately 300 feet.

The Narrow Angle Cameras on the LRO will try to locate any additional scarps. Further research must be performed to determine whether these changes are being caused by the Earth's gravitational force.

New data suggests Mars may not be lifeless

The Viking 1 and 2 missions 35 years ago failed to find evidence of life on Mars.

However, a new analysis of the data that the two landers collected in some ways vindicates those still hoping for little green men.

Data collected by the landers suggested that Martian soil did not contain the organic molecules that are necessary to support life. Other experiments that gave evidence that life could exist on Mars were discounted as contamination from the spacecraft.

Scientists replicated the experiments and data collection the landers performed at the most Mars-like place found

on Earth — Chile's Atacama Desert. Using the same techniques as the Viking missions, scientists were able to replicate the data those missions obtained.

Desert soil on Earth certainly contains organic molecules, but scientists found that some of these molecules were destroyed by the testing process Viking used. This raises the possibility that if Viking did find evidence for life, that evidence was destroyed before it reached earth.

Other scientists are still skeptical, and look to the upcoming Mars Science Laboratory, which will land in 2012, to provide more conclusive answers.



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Solar storms are expected to intensify in the next five years, and will be monitored by the AMPERE program.

APL scientists develop space weather monitor

Scientists at the Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory (APL) and Boeing have successfully launched a system to monitor weather in space.

The Active Magnetosphere and Planetary Electrodynamics Response Experiment (AMPERE) program is part of several initiatives to better understand solar storms, which can potentially damage satellites, high-altitude aircraft, and power grids.

The system allows scientists to monitor the entire magnetic field surrounding Earth with continuous, real-time measurements using Boeing's network of 66 low-Earth orbiting satellites. Previously, data on the planet's magnetic field could only be sampled once every three minutes and was available for analysis the next day.

These developments are especially timely, as a new "season" of solar storms is expected to flare up in the next three to five years.

AMPERE is a step toward a future system that will allow space weather forecasters to predict the occurrence of solar storms and their negative effects on Earth.

—All briefs by Ann Wang and Tiffany Ng

Scientists look at dark energy through the lens of light-bending galaxies

DARK ENERGY, FROM B7

affects the light coming from stars and galaxies behind the cluster. By measuring the extent of the lensing and by concurrently obtaining ground-based measurements of the speeds and distances of the stars behind the galactic cluster, the team has been able to more

accurately quantify how much dark energy is affecting our universe. They are also better able to

determine how strongly it is affecting the geometry and expansion of the universe.

"In our models," Jullo wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*, "dark energy modifies the distances (to Abell 1689 but also to the background lensed galaxies). Dark energy is required to alter the distances to each individual background galaxy, and consequently, to slightly shift the positions of the multiply imaged background

galaxies. In fact, the position of the multiple images depends on the distances to the background galaxies, and the mass of the lens (the galaxy cluster)."

Dark energy as an idea hasn't been around that long, but its mystery has perplexed and challenged scientists from the start. Though the term "dark energy" itself wasn't coined in their original paper, Perlmutter et. al. presented data suggesting that the

universe was expanding at an ever-increasing rate.

This finding was groundbreaking and nearly unbelievable, but repeated measurements have verified Jullo's work. Needless to say, the discovery necessitated the existence of some force that opposes the gravitation pull felt between all the "normal" matter in the universe; if no such force existed, the universe would eventually contract under its own internal attractive forces.

This push and pull between gravity and dark energy can be best thought of with the analogy of a blown up balloon. When you blow up a balloon, it will deflate unless you tie it or continue blowing air into it.

In this scenario, the air in the balloon is the dark energy, and the elasticity of the balloon wanting to return to its natural, deflated state is gravity. Dark energy is the force pushing the walls of the balloon apart, while gravity is the elastic pull back towards the

un-stretched state.

Dark energy isn't air, though. It may not even be energy. What is it then?

What else? A mystery. Some scientists even go so far as to say it may be the missing link between the disparate fields of physics: the quantum, the everyday and the astronomical.

Only time and more discoveries like those of Jullo and his colleagues will tell. With any luck, continued use of this group's technique in the coming years will allow other scientists to more accurately describe where in the universe dark energy is located and how much exists.

The team is confident in their work and hope that other scientists will try it out, but in the meantime, they will continue similar analyses on other galactic clusters elsewhere in the cosmos. "We hope that this... will make people try our method on their data. This method is potentially very powerful," Jullo wrote.

DNA copy control may impact cancer, evolution

By IAN YU
For The News-Letter

The process of DNA replication has stringent controls to ensure that the genome does not go awry from significant errors. However, what results

from the loss of these controls has not been examined until very recently.

Researchers collaborating from the Hopkins School of Medicine and University of California, San Francisco, have tested the impacts of interference with eukaryotic DNA replication controls. By manipulating the genome of yeast cells to create additional copies of particular segments of DNA, the group was able to increase the expression of particular segments. The group notes that this may have broader implications for gene copy number changes in the research of cancer biology, human genetics and evolution.

The budding yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, commonly used in the fermentation of alcoholic beverages and baking, was manipulated by the researchers so that the controls that prevent the re-replication of a particular genetic sequence were disrupted. By deregulating two important proteins involved in the regulation of DNA replication in one of their trials, the researchers managed to undermine these controls in such a way as to induce re-replication.

Interfering with these controls during a particular window of the cell cycle resulted in re-replication of a specific segment of DNA that was not appropriate for the yeast, causing multiple copies of the segment to develop. The production of these additional copies resulted in a significantly higher frequency of expression of these segments.

These changes were observed using PCR and Southern blot analysis, indicating which segments were amplified and to what degree. Certain instances of induced re-replication resulted

in increases in expression by as much as 48-fold.

The researchers also noted a possible mechanism for re-replication where the extra replication strand is forked with the other copy of the segment, resulting in possible damage to the segments. Both strands break and reconnect end to end resulting in an elongation of the gene segments with possible defects in the re-replicated strands. Specifically, these segments are arranged in a head-to-tail

pattern.

From these results, the group presents another important genetic event that will be of great importance for human geneticists, evolution biologists, and cancer researchers.

"Our work in budding yeast raises the possibility that loss of replication control in more complex organisms might contribute to a number of normal and pathological processes where gene amplification is observed," wrote Joachim Li, associate professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at UCSF, in an email to the News-Letter.

Li also noted that there is a great significance of this re-replication for cancer research, especially in regard to anti-tumor treatments.

"Amplification of oncogenes is thought to contribute to oncogenesis, and amplification of specific genes can lead to resistance to anti-tumor drugs," he wrote.

With regards to evolution, gene duplication may have a large impact when intertwined with the role of mutation. "Increasing the copy number of genes in itself may provide phenotypic variability upon which natural selection can work and where simple gene duplication can allow genes to acquire new functions by mutation," he wrote.

The group also noted that the high efficiency of re-replication resulting from the loss of DNA replication control in its ability to destabilize a genome, noting that even at lower levels of re-replica-

tion there is a significant amount of resultant gene amplification.

The loss of DNA replication control may have an impact on further studies in cancer and evolution research. "Demonstrating that loss of replication control can indeed affect cancer or evolution is one of our new directions," Li wrote.

Tech companies try to make it big with 3-D entertainment

This past summer was a huge period of opportunity for consumer media companies, and boy did they take full advantage of it. Three-dimensional technology had been brewing on the fringe for many years now, and as if the starter pistol of a race had gone off, everyone is suddenly madly rushing into the 3D arena.

Nintendo announced the 3DS, the next-gen version of the Nintendo DS and DSi, while TV makers the world over are now pushing 3D televisions into our living rooms. Cable companies are finally beginning to roll out 3D content, most notably in sports. Some of the 3D technologies we are seeing need glasses, while others are playing up the fact that they can achieve 3D effects without the use of glasses (Nintendo being the first to come to mind).

So when will you get your first gander at a 3D TV?

Well, many of you probably already have, depending on what you were up to this summer. Oh, you didn't spend your summer at Best Buy? My apologies. 3D televisions will probably take some time to show up in academia and public areas, so you might not be seeing 3D billboards anytime soon, but the technology is definitely hitting the mainstream. The speed of the industry's transition to 3D is arguably faster than that of the transition to HDTVs, which seems like it was many moons ago.

Yufeng Guo

Tech Talk

for the 3D side. More and more devices are getting more and more connected to the internet and the social grid.

TVs are now no longer just content delivery devices. Even after TiVo and DVR came onto the scene, TVs remained content absorbers. Yes, you could now

choose when to view your shows,

but you didn't interact with your content in any meaningful way. Now with TV featuring browsers and ways to tap into your social network to suggest shows, movies, clips and other content to friends and family, the TV is poised to take the next step, one that will launch it into a whole new category of devices. With this new technology, you will no longer just plop on the couch and watch some reruns. Instead, you will be able to watch your show at the same time as your friend and chat about it, all while keeping your eye on your email, Facebook, Twitter, etc.

More than just a screen: The Social Factor

Apple (Apple TV), Google (Google TV), Netflix, Hulu and many other services are all vying for space in your living room. More precisely, they are competing

for space on your living room's choice of display. Will that content be offered in 3D? If so, it could mean another point

for the 3D side. More and more devices are getting more and more connected to the internet and the social grid.

choose when to view your shows, but you didn't interact with your content in any meaningful way. Now with TV featuring browsers and ways to tap into your social network to suggest shows, movies, clips and other content to friends and family, the TV is poised to take the next step, one that will launch it into a whole new category of devices. With this new technology, you will no longer just plop on the couch and watch some reruns. Instead, you will be able to watch your show at the same time as your friend and chat about it, all while keeping your eye on your email, Facebook, Twitter, etc.

But can it grow?

There are still many questions that need to be answered about the technology. Where is this technol-



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facturers and service providers can prioritize and work together to put out a coherent message and a consistent product that can capture their target audience's attention and their hard-earned cash. TV makers don't want to offer features too early before they can become useful. Companies, services and shows don't want to push new features before a significant number can take advantage of them and tell their friends about it. So they can either stare at each other or try to reach some sort of agreement so that things can move forward.

In the coming months, as we approach the end-of-the-year holiday sales season, we will see if any progress has been made. Until then, I'll be watching my shows on my computer.

So What's Next?

What will happen next largely depends on how well TV manu-

SPORTS

Selbst returns to goal for final season

POLO, FROM B12

for the award".

Selbst posted 289 saves, along with maintaining a 3.57 cumulative GPA and majoring in both economics and psychology with a minor in business.

Whittam earned 2nd team All-American status with 52 goals, the second most in Hopkins history for a freshman. Whittam was also named the 2009 Collegiate Water Polo Association (CWPA) Southern Division Player of the Year.

Whittam's freshman success only fuels his desire to improve upon his legacy as an upperclassman. "Coming into Hopkins I hoped I would get to play maybe a few minutes a game," Selbst said, "but as the season went on I found myself playing more and more and becoming a major part of the team. I hope that I can improve and get better as I get older."

Whittam's athletic ability was on full display at the Navy Open, where the Jays suffered a loss in their season opener 11-6 to Northern Virginia Water Polo. Abbreviated as NOVA, this is a master's water polo team with many old time Division 1 All-Americans on the roster.

Hopkins scored, but not enough. "We failed to counter them effectively," Crow said, "which cost us the game. It was a rough start, but everything picked up from there".

Whittam and freshman Stephen Kingery led the team with two goals apiece. Crow and freshman Kevin Zepfel rounding out the Jays' scoring. The next three games saw Hopkins getting into their stride, as they cruised by Diablo Valley College 10-7. The win was a team effort involving senior John Barrett, junior Mark Strickland and sophomore Ross Schofield.

The big test for Hopkins was their game against fierce opponent Fordham, which ended with a huge victory by a small margin, final score 11-10 Hopkins.

"Our team mentality, spacing, and communication improved throughout the next three games,

including in the 11-10 win over Fordham which was the most important game of the tournament," Crow said.

"These four games outline that we are in great shape, but need to work on capitalizing on our man-up situations and finishing in front of the goal," Crowsaid.

The Fordham triumph featured two saves by goalie Selbst and three goals by Barrett.

The Jays had no trouble routing Gannon in a 19-4 win including four saves by Selbst, the grizzled veteran.

"I think to get to the level we were at last year players just need to keep stepping up," Selbst said, "and playing hard. If we keep playing like we need to prove something to the rest of the league who may think we're too young or inexperienced to make an impact there's no reason we won't find ourselves in the same position at the end of the year as we were last year."

The ultimate goal of the team is to return and win the Eastern Championships, along with bringing past players and fresh faces alike to the hallowed All-American ranks.

"Our talent and potential is high, it's just up to us to take advantage of that and put it all together," Wittam said.

With a pre-season ranking of fifth in the nation and a successful start to the season, one can only hope the All-American's assessment comes true.

Next weekend, the Water Polo team travels to Princeton for four games. On Saturday, the squad matches up with Iona at 1:30 p.m. and California Baptist at 9:30 p.m. And on Sunday, Santa Clara at 1:30 p.m. followed by Fordham, again, at 4:30 p.m.

The first home match will be on September 25 against Bucknell at 8 p.m. followed by another home game the next day against Princeton at noon.

The third and final home game will be against Navy on October 16 at 4:30 p.m.

**BY RYAN KAHN
STAFF WRITER**

The Football team returns after one of the most successful seasons in Hopkins Football history. A Centennial Conference Championship and an NCAA playoff berth. This year's team has the ability and the talent to try to improve on that.

Last year, Hopkins made it all the way to the NCAA quarterfinal and a top 10 finish in the AFCA Division III poll. Expectations for this year correlate directly with last year's success and this season's polls. For the 2010 season, Hopkins remains at the top of the Centennial Conference Coaches Poll, and has earned a prestigious top 25 ranking from three different national polls: Lindy's (12th), The Sporting News (15th), and d3football.com (19th).

With the school record in wins (129) over 20 seasons of head coaching, Coach Margraff is facing a challenge this year of replacing some of last season's top players.

Hopkins Football graduated four All-Centennial offensive linemen and two First Team All-Centennial defensive linemen. Running back Andrew Kase and linebacker Colin Wixten, the Centennial Offensive and Defensive players of the year, leave major gaps in the Blue Jay offense and defense.

Junior cornerback Sam Eagleson believes they have the ability to top last year's performance. "In my three years here the attitude of this year's team is by far the best," Eagleson said, "we are missing a lot of guys that graduated last year but everyone on the team is working hard to put together another great season."

Though they lost a lot of promising seniors, they also return a lot of talent on both sides of the ball. Eagleson believes those players will only improve as the season progresses.

"The work ethic this year is outstanding and the 10 straight games will bring us together because we will need every person every week," Eagleson said.



FILE PHOTO
Hopkins football season will kick off this Saturday at Randolph Macon, led by All-Centennial Conference kicker, senior Alex Lachman.

Offense

Posting a 17-5 record as JHU's starting quarterback, junior Hewitt Tomlin looks to come back and improve on a successful season in which he broke several school records: passing yards (2,642), completions (238), attempts (390), completion percentage (.610) and 200-yard passing games (9).

All indications are pointing towards another break out year for Tomlin as JHU graduated its top rusher and returns its three top receivers with an All-Centennial tight end.

The Jays are happy to return three receivers that caught more than 50 passes each last year, for the first time in school history. Featuring seniors Dan Crowley and Tucker Michels along with junior Sam Wernick, the receiving core is considered by many as one of the top wide receiving units in the country.

Crowley, a converted QB, finished last season with 69 receptions, 975 yards and five touchdowns. Michels could become just the third player in school history with 200 receptions and

2,000 receiving yards. Wernick, a starting outfielder for the baseball team in the spring, racked up 451 receiving yards last season.

"We've been working hard all off season and can't wait to get the season started," Wernick said.

Don't let the wide receivers success overshadow another integral part of the offense: tight-end and senior co-captain Brian Hopkins. Gaining Second Team All-Centennial honors Hopkins had 15 receptions for 126 yards with 4 touchdowns. Hopkins will also play a huge role in the success of the Jays' running game this season.

Replacing Andrew Kase is no easy task, but the coaching staff is excited about two upcoming prospects: sophomore Jonathan Rigaud and junior Nick Fazio.

The duo offers a balance of speed and power to keep defenses off track. Both have showed promise, though Fazio missed last season with injuries, Rigaud averaged a stifling 6.5 yards per carry.

There's nothing more important to an offense's success than the strength of the offensive line. This year the team is relying heavily on senior co-captain Ryan Lino.

Junior Ed Rodger is also poised to lead the line after an impressive season last year, winning Second Team All-Centennial honors.

Hofstra transfer Roland Massimino will look to hold down the left tackle spot after an impressive spring.

The most experienced duo is Alex Lachman and Max Islinger, the team's kicker and punter. Both seniors have 4 years of starting experience. Islinger averaged 32.6 yards on 54 punts last year and has placed more than 40 punts within the opponents 20-yard line throughout his career.

Lachman also had a strong season last year, hitting 16-of-21 field goal attempts and earning Second Team All-Centennial honors. Lachman is just nine field goals short to tie Ben Scott's school and Centennial Conference record of 43.

The most important kick of the season was in the final seconds of the second playoff game against Thomas More. Lachman sank a 43-yard field goal to give Hopkins the 31-29 victory.

Defense

The defensive line is anchored by Senior co-captain Devin Collins, coming off a season with six starts, 28 tackles (six for losses) and three sacks. Collins stepped up his game when it came to the playoffs and totaled 17 tackles in the three playoff games.

Two other seniors join Collins providing leadership and experience up front: Brian Pascal and Kevin Parrish. Pascal played in all 13 games last year with 17 tackles and four sacks.

The coaching staff is looking at juniors Brian Peters and Dan Keenan with sophomore Jordan Randolph to fill the void left by last year's graduating class. All three are coming off solid years where each gained a chunk of experience. Peters played in all 13 games with five starts totaling 20 tackles (3.5 for losses) and 2.5 sacks.

Second Team All-Centennial selection, Juniors Ryan Piatek and Tyler Brown, return to their spots at middle linebacker and keep up Hopkin's defensive reputation as fast and physical. Piatek finished second on the team in tackles with 78, while Brown wasn't far behind with 74.

Looking to return as the top LB core in the Centennial Conference, the Jays forced at least two turnovers in every regular season game last year while amassing 38 sacks.

The defensive backs look to return most of their talent and are perhaps the most experienced unit on the defense. They return three starters, two of which earned All-Centennial honors last year.

Junior Michael Milano led the team in tackles (84), earning him First Team All-Centennial honors. Milano also had three interceptions and seven pass breakups.

Junior Sam Eagleson and senior co-captain Mike Mahon are also going to have major roles in holding down the backfield.

Eagleson, a First Team All-American for the Jay's baseball team, also received Second Team All-Centennial honors for his impressive year as a corner back. "We can never take a week off because that could be the difference in a great season and a good season," Eagleson said.

"The biggest thing is not being content with how far we went last year, we have to want more," Eagleson said. He posted six interceptions, nine pass breakups, and 53 tackles. Mahon totaled 52 tackles with four interceptions opposite of Eagleson.

2010 spring seasons brimming with athletic accomplishments

BY JEFFREY ZHU

For The News-Letter

A new semester is upon us and that means another season of Hopkins athletics.

While the cross country, field hockey, football, soccer and volleyball teams currently have their hands full with opposing teams, let us take some time to recap on how the spring teams ended their successful seasons.

Last spring was a combination of ups and downs for the Blue Jays, but highlighted by many memorable events and honors.

The men and women's track teams had a successful spring, as many different runners stepped up with great performances. The women's team captured its first Centennial Conference Championship, edging out Haverford in the top spot by five points.

Laura Paulsen capped off a great collegiate athletic career, with her sixth place finish in the 5000-meter run, at the 2010 NCAA Division III Graduate student Stephen Beisiuk returns for another year of glory with hopes of a national championship. SUNY-Cortland, 23-8.

into the year with big expectations, as the roster was composed of a well-balanced mix of experience and talented youth. A three-game winning streak set the Jays off to a good start.

An 11-10 overtime loss to Princeton at M&T Bank Stadium began a difficult stretch. From that game on, the Jays went 4-6, including a four-game losing streak. A 9-6 victory over Loyola in the last regular

her Hopkins lacrosse career third on the team in points, with 33.

Goalie Cosette Larash started all but one game, and accrued a .452 save percentage for the season.

The Hopkins men and women's tennis teams ended the year being ranked 13th and 12th respectively by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA). Both teams also

Honors, as well as becoming third in school history with 117 wins. Nadita Krishnan closed the season with a 29th national ranking, the highest ever for a freshman season in school history.

Out of all the Hopkins sports teams that played last spring, none made headlines like the baseball team. The Jays set a new mark, as the 44-7 record is an all-time high in wins.

Along the way came a 32-game winning streak, a DIII #1 ranking, Coach Bob Babb's 900th managerial win, a victorious Centennial Conference Tournament and NCAA Mid-Atlantic Regionals and a trip to the DIII College World Series in Grand Chute, Wis.

Hopkins could not win the top prize, as they were eliminated by Heidelberg, 3-2 and

23-8.

Dave Kahn led the team in OPS (1.384) and was 18-for-20 in steals. Brian Youchak endured a rough transition to playing second base, but it did not affect his hitting, as he was second on the team in OPS (1.371) and led the team with a .492 batting average.

Sam Eagleson emerged as the ace of the pitching staff, pitching with a team-leading 2.51 ERA and 12-0 record. Alex Elipoulos led the pitching staff with 2.44 FIP, which is fielding-independent pitching. The bullpen was led by Ryan Scherich, who maintained a 1.35 ERA and 2.50 FIP.

The strong play by the Hopkins baseball team was highlighted by Andrew Pevsner's selection by the Los Angeles Dodgers in the 14th round of the draft, becoming the seventh player in Hopkins baseball to be drafted by an MLB team.

season game allowed Hopkins to end the regular season 7-7, and secure a playoff berth.

The Jays were shot down in the first round, losing 18-5 to their archenemies, the Duke Blue Devils.

Steven Boyle led the team with 55 points, followed by Michael Kimmel (39) and Kyle Wharton (33). Goalie Pierce Bassett stepped in as a starter midseason and ended the year with a .536 save percentage.

The women's lacrosse team may have exceeded expectations, as the Lady Jays achieved a 10-6 record in regular season play. The season featured impressive wins over ranked schools, such as Penn State and Ohio State.

The Lady Laxers lost in the first round of the playoffs, at the hands of the Florida Gators, 14-3.

Candace Rossi led the team with 52 points, fellow classmate Colleen McCaffrey followed with 42 points and Sam Scrum ended

hold a distinction for home court domination, winning all matches at home and against conference opponents.

The men's tennis team ended the season with a 21-6 record. David Maldow ended his Hopkins tennis career as the all-time leader in wins for any athlete in school history. Andrew Wang, Maldow's doubles partner, also showed off his dominance on the hardcourt, being ranked nationally by the ITA for a second straight year.

The women's tennis team ended their season with a 17-9 record. Carolyn Warren led the way, earning All-Centennial Conference and ITA All-American Honors, and moved up to a 15th place national ranking in singles. Anita Bhamidipati ended her Hopkins tennis career with All-Centennial Conference and ITA All-American

Honors, as well as becoming third in school history with 117 wins. Nadita Krishnan closed the season with a 29th national ranking, the highest ever for a freshman season in school history.

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Furlong and Hahn return for senior seasons

RUNNERS, FROM B12

"She has had a great first two years here but because we lost some of our top girls from last year, she looks like she is going to really step up and have a chance to not just be one of the best runners on our team and in the conference, but region as well. This race was a good sign."

Joining Furlong in the event's top five were senior Megan Brower, sophomore Liz Provost and freshman Lara Shegoski.

Valerie, who was competing in her first race since suffering a stress fracture in her tibia late last season, was just happy to be back on the trail.

"It felt really good to be back in the pack of runners," she said. "The team did a great job and hopefully we can continue to run well in our upcoming meets."

On September 18th, the two teams will travel to Annapolis for the Salty Dog Invitational at the Naval Academy. The event will give the Jays an opportunity to face off against several Division I programs like Georgetown, Maryland, and Louisville, which should be one of their most difficult challenges of the season.

"Next meet should be one of our tougher matchups," said Van Allen. "Right now though, we are not really focused on who we beat and who we lose to; it's too early for that. We don't worry about final results until later in the year, so I think if we stay relaxed and stay focused and stick to our game plan we should do just fine."

"The biggest thing is not being content with how far we went last year, we have to want more," Eagleson said. He posted six interceptions, nine pass breakups, and 53 tackles. Mahon totaled 52 tackles with four interceptions opposite of Eagleson.

SPORTS

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK
CECILIA FURLONG - CROSS COUNTRY

By BRETT SCHWARTZ
Staff Writer

After finishing seventh as a team at Nationals last year, top women's cross country returner, Cecilia Furlong knew her team needed to start the season with a statement.

Furlong helped her team do just that, as her first place overall finish lead her team to the win last Friday at the Baltimore Metros Invitational in Timonium.

Furlong, a junior from San Francisco, is Coach Bobby Van Allen's top runner, after former top-runner Laura Paulsen, graduated last spring. Furlong was excited for the season to start after a long summer of training.

"As a team, going into Metros, we really wanted to open the season with a win," Furlong said. "We did a great job of sticking to our race plan, and running in packs and continuing to push our teammates throughout the entire race."

The team finished first overall by edging out Division I opponent, Towson, by eight points. The 11th-ranked Blue Jays placed four runners in the top five, to capture their third straight Baltimore Metro Championship.

Furlong finished in 18:11, to secure a 16 second victory over Towson's Katie Ogden. Senior Megan Brower placed third



FILE PHOTO

Senior distance runner Cecilia Furlong finished in a personal best 18:11.

VITAL STATISTICS

Year: Senior

Major: BME

Hopkins Highlights

Cecilia Furlong runs year round for Coach Bobby Van Allen. Writes for the News-Letter sports section and will graduate with a degree in Bio-Medical Engineering.

overall for the Blue Jays, followed by sophomore Liz Provost and freshman Lara Shegoski at 18:50 and 18:55, respectively.

Furlong runs all season long between cross country and track. The BME major has a strong

work ethic all year long, not just when she is in her running shoes. In addition, Furlong is one of the most consistent staff writers for the sports section of *News-Letter* and has aspirations to continue her higher education at the graduate level.

Furlong was a late comer long distance running and did not get involved with cross country until her senior year in high school but has burning passion for all sports. Her favorite event: the steeplechase.

Cecilia has worked with Van Allen for four years. "Bobby really listens to what we want to focus on, both individually and as a team," Furlong said, "and incorporates this into our training."

Assistant Coach Ryan Orn has also contributed significantly to Furlong's success.

"Ryan is great at keeping us motivated and positive, and both of our coaches give us the ability in our training to push ourselves and continue to improve," Furlong said.

For her final season, Furlong will be in the front of the pack for most events as a direct result of hours and hours of hard work.

The ending to her junior season will only fuel the fire beneath her.

"Our seventh place finish at nationals last was a major disappointment," Furlong said. Furlong says that the high expectations they had entering the meet, made the ending that much tougher to bare.

Plus, Furlong just missed qualifying for the nationals in the steeple-chase, her favorite event.

College is very much a long distance race, metaphorically similar to a cross country event. If all goes to plan, Furlong will end her collegiate career at the front of the pack.

victorious in the Blue Jay Classic, beating the Cardinals of Catholic University, 1-0.

Freshman Sam Glassman scored the only goal of the game, his first career goal for JHU. The two teams battled back and forth, both sides refusing to yield any ground until Glassman scored in the 70th minute.

Freshman Drake Fisher had possession just to the right of the box and dropped a pass back to Glassman near the 18. After collecting the ball, he fired a hard shot from 16 yards out, beating Catholic goalie Quinn Daly.

Gill earned his second straight shut-out, the 15th of his career, making two saves, in a game where there were more total fouls (24) than total shots (19).

Hopkins held the advantage

in the second half, Samantha Locke of St. Mary's broke the tie with a shot off of a rebound, giving the Seahawks a 1-0 lead.

Senior co-captain Ariana Branchini then evened the game for the Blue Jays, sinking a penalty stroke to make it 1-1.

Following the equalizer, the Jays continued with strong offensive pressure, recording eight shots and 10 corners in the remainder of regulation, yet they couldn't come up with the go-ahead goal and the game entered overtime.

With only 6:07 left in the first overtime, Lauriann Parker of St. Mary's slipped a shot by the Blue

Women's Field Hockey wins on Labor Day

By AMY KLIVANS
Staff Writer

Following a second place finish in the Centennial Conference a year ago, the Johns Hopkins Field Hockey team this year plans to build off of this success and challenge Ursinus for the Conference title.

Currently ranked 15th in the Kookaburra/NFHCA Preseason Poll and 2nd in the Conference, the Blue Jays opened the 2010 season at Homewood Field this past weekend with games against St. Mary's College of Maryland and Virginia Wesleyan.

In Saturday's matinee against the Seahawks, the two teams played to a zero-zero draw through half time,

with the Blue Jays only recording two shots on goal. Less than four minutes

into the second half, Samantha Locke of St. Mary's broke the tie with a shot off of a rebound, giving the Seahawks a 1-0 lead.

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stroke to make it 1-1.

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corded four goals and 25 shots in the first half.

Senior Jennifer Motylinski got the Blue Jays on the board first with a goal off of a rebound of a Carly Bianco shot just 10:28 into the game.

The Blue Jays continued the strong offensive pressure, with sophomore Liane Tellier giving the Blue Jays their second goal of the game less than three minutes later.

Junior forward Carly Bianco then followed this up with two straight goals before the half, giving Hopkins a 4-0-advantage heading into the locker room.

In the second half, the Blue

Jays continued the shutout,



FILE PHOTO

Senior captain Arianna Branchini has one goal in nine shots in the first two games of the season. Branchini led the team in goals (7) last season and started all 19 games.

midfielder Sam Stuek, "but our ultimate season goal is to make it to the NCAA tournament."

The Blue Jays will look to build off of their win as they continue non-conference play this week against Lebanon Valley.

W. Soccer 2-0 on the road, Zazzali scores first goal

W. SOCCER, FROM B12

find senior defender Jessica Hnatiuk, who would put it away for the Jays' third and final goal on the day.

Orgera would finish the game with three goals allowed and nine saves on the Jays' 30 shots.

Sophomore Meredith Maguire would start the game in net for the Jays, finishing with two saves, before being pulled for Kelly Leddy, who would finish with one save.

Last night's match pitted two National Championship hopefuls against each other very early in the season. Both squads had extraordinary opportunities early in the game.

Messiah scored twice last night before Hopkins was able to get on the board. Heading into the half the Falcons were up 1-0 and scored again within the first two minutes of the second half.

Hopkins answered back quickly with a goal by Ali Zazzali and assisted by Sarah Tankard.

Messiah out shot Hopkins 14.

The Lady Jays travel to Pittsbugh this weekend for two games. On Saturday they face Wittenburg and Sunday Earlham.

Volleyball .500 in pre-conference home matches

VOLLEYBALL, FROM B12

on what we need to work on to beat the teams in our conference and look forward to doing so."

The fourth home game of the season on Wednesday night evened the Lady Jay's season record to 2-2. The loss was the first of the season for Gallaudet, 4-1.

Hopkins defeated Gallaudet 3-1. The first two sets were in favor of Hopkins 25-18, 27-25. The third went to Gallaudet 25-19. Hopkins put the fourth away, 25-15.

The Jays are now 1-2 on the season and are set for another difficult schedule in 2010, with 30 regular season matches.

The team will host Gallaudet on September 8 before traveling the following weekend to Virginia for the Lynchburg Tournament. Following their trip to Virginia, the Jays will head to Pittsburgh for the Carnegie Mellon Cross-over Tournament. The beginning of the Hopkins conference schedule, however, does not officially begin until it hosts Swarthmore on the 22nd of September. JHU hosts Washington College the following night in another conference match, before heading to York College for the Spartan Invitational from September 24-25.

While Hopkins has many returning players this season, Coach Troy has the challenge of replacing three of his top performers, Rhea Alexander, Allison Cappelaere and Alex Zenoff. Troy takes over a roster that features 10 returnees and three newcomers.

"My main goal," Coach Troy said, "is to create an environment where the girls are competitive, striving to improve and enjoying themselves in the process. If we can get better each day, the winning will take care of itself."

Team leaders include KC Stingl, Melissa Cole, Amelia Thomas and Carolyn Michelson in the outside hitting position.

Last season, Stingl posted 163 digs, 59 kills and 14 aces on the year. "KC will help us keep a balanced attack in our offense," Troy said, "and will keep opponents' blocking schemes balanced."

Cole also had a great 2009 season with the Jays, totaling 153 kills, 118 digs and eight aces. She

is one of the most talented athletes on the squad and has proven to be a great influence on her teammates. "Her calm demeanor allows the team to settle down in high stress situations," Troy said.

Thomas, team co-captain, has established herself as one of the hardest workers on the squad.

Troy expects the sophomore to take another step forward and become one of the team's top performers this year.

Mickelson returns after a successful season as a freshman in which she played in 51 sets. Mickelson will play multiple positions for the Jays, which adds great depth to the squad.

Two players will be switching positions this year from right side hitters to middle hitters. Senior Brittany Zimmer and junior Sarah Feicht will both need to adjust to their new positions in order to ensure the success of this upcoming season.

Zimmer played 50 sets in 2009, posting 86 kills and 82 digs on the year. "Brittany isn't your typical middle when you think of height, but her explosiveness and quickness will keep defenses on their toes," said Troy. "She is probably the hardest hitter on the team at this point."

Seniors Katie Kings and Taryn Segal, as well as freshman Erica Levenbaum, will compete for playing time and provide depth to the Jays defense.

Feicht appeared in 78 sets last season and compiled 153 kills and 51 digs. The Jays, lacking in a particularly tall roster, will utilize Feicht in the middle of the court as a much-needed blocking presence.

Becky Paynter returns for her second season as starting setter. She led the team in both assists and service aces last season, totaling 621 and 23, respectively. Her 621 assists rank 15th all-time in single-season assists at Johns Hopkins.

Becky makes great decisions on the floor and puts the team in position to score points in crucial situations," Coach Troy said.

Two freshmen, Katia Charov and Patricia Kingeo, add depth to the setter position.

Senior captain Alicia Diehl will play libero for Hopkins in the 2010 season. Diehl has played defensive specialist for the majority of her volleyball career. "Alicia has a great ability to read and react to plays before they happen and you'll usually find her somewhere near the ball," said Troy.

This change may be key for the Hopkins defense.

Seniors Katie Kings and Taryn Segal, as well as freshman Erica Levenbaum, will compete for playing time and provide depth to the Jays defense.

M. SOCCER

Saturday, September 4:

Hopkins 1, Buffalo State 0

Sunday, September 5:

Hopkins 3, Salisbury 0

Wednesday, September 8:

Hopkins 1, Messiah 2

FIELD HOCKEY

Saturday, September 4:

Hopkins 5, Virginia Wesleyan 0

W. SOCCER

Saturday, September 4:

Hopkins 5, Fredonia State 0

Sunday, September 5:

Hopkins 3, Salisbury 0

Wednesday, September 8:

Hopkins 1, Messiah 2

WATER POLO

Saturday, September 4:

Hopkins 6, Northern Virginia 11

Hopkins 10, Diablo Valley 7

Sunday, September 5:

Hopkins 11, Fordham 10

Hopkins 19, Gannon 4

BLUE JAY ATHLETICS SCOREBOARD



COURTESY OF JHU ATHLETICS

Junior defense-man Corey Adams receiving the MVP plaque from Assistant AD Mike Mattia.

Freshman Danny Reategui was the next player to score his first career goal for the Blue Jays, chipping another ball over the goalie's head in the 80th minute of the game.

Sophomore Jun Park became the fourth player on the night to score his first career goal in a Johns Hopkins uniform, burying a ball into the back of the net in the 86th minute, the Blue Jays' seventh goal of the night. Freshman Alvin Onyewuenyi played a nice through ball past two Buffalo State defenders to Park, who hit a low ball just inside the right post.

Senior goalie Ravi Gill didn't have to do much to post his 14th career shutout, making just one save in the win. Dudek finished with six saves in the loss.

In a much closer game the next day, the Blue Jays emerged

SPORTS

M. and W. Cross Country start season with wins

By MICHAEL KANEN
For The News-Letter

As school was warming up last week, the men's and women's cross country seasons were too.

Last Friday, September 3rd, the two teams, each coached by Bobby Van Allen (who is in his 11th year at the helm) competed in the annual Baltimore Metro Cross Country Championships in nearby Timonium, Maryland, and won their respective meets in convincing fashion.

Last year, both the men's and women's squads experienced new heights that they hope continue into this season.

The men, who have inched closer and closer to their ultimate goal of an appearance in

the NCAA Championships over the last few years, did so again last season when they finished third in the Centennial Conference as well as seventh in the Mideast Regional Championships.

Sophomore Nick Kisley, who finished second overall and first on the team in this past weekend's race, thinks this could be the year the program takes that next step.

"Last year we had a real good season, but it was still disappointing because we didn't make Nationals — our ultimate goal," Kisley said.

"I think it was the best we had ever run at Conference Championships, but our goal was still to make Nationals and it is again this year," he said.

The women, too, reached unprecedented success a season ago. 2009 was a monumental campaign for the women's cross country team, when Van Allen led the group to the first ever number-one national ranking of a Hopkins women's team. The girls finished the year seventh at the NCAA Championships and remain hungry to return this season.

Senior and team captain Christina Valerio is hoping the Baltimore Metro win is the first of many victories.

"It felt really great to win the first meet," Valerio said. "We lost four seniors from our top seven last year, so it was really good to see that we have a lot of potential and a lot of depth coming back. We definitely

want to win the Conference and Regionals again, but getting back to Nationals is our number one goal."

The Baltimore Metro Championships, which included nearby foes such as Towson, McDaniel, Goucher and Morgan State, served as a good stepping stone and confidence builder for each of these teams.

For the seventh consecutive year, the Hopkins men took home the gold in the local event, posting some of its most impressive team numbers in program history.

Led by Kisley with a time of 16:17.57, the Blue Jays' top five runners, senior Brandon Hahn, junior Andrew Yen, freshman Julian Salianni and junior Brett Schwartz (News-Letter Staff Writer) all finished within twenty seconds of each other and the team placed eight runners in the top nine overall.

Coach Van Allen was especially pleased with the proximity of his first five guys.

"Having our top five runners all finish that close to each other was definitely the biggest highlight of the meet," Van Allen said.

"We really want to keep our top five runners within 30 seconds of each other, so to do it in 20 the first time out was great to see. It'll be tougher to do when we start running 8K's, but I think it can still be our strength."

Although the competition was a little weaker than what the men are used to, they stuck to the game plan and did what they had to do.

"The plan from the beginning is to go out easy and then attack the last mile. After about two miles, the pack starts to string out, and we did a great job of keeping together and getting a lot of good times," said Kisley.

As for the Lady Jays, who were ranked 11th in the country going into the meet, this was their third consecutive Baltimore Metro title. Leading the pack almost the entire race was Athlete of the Week junior Cecilia Furlong (News-Letter Staff Writer), who took first place with a time of 18:11.73, an astounding 16 seconds ahead of the second-place finisher.

"Cecilia looks like she has really come into her own," Van Allen said.

SEE RUNNERS, PAGE B10

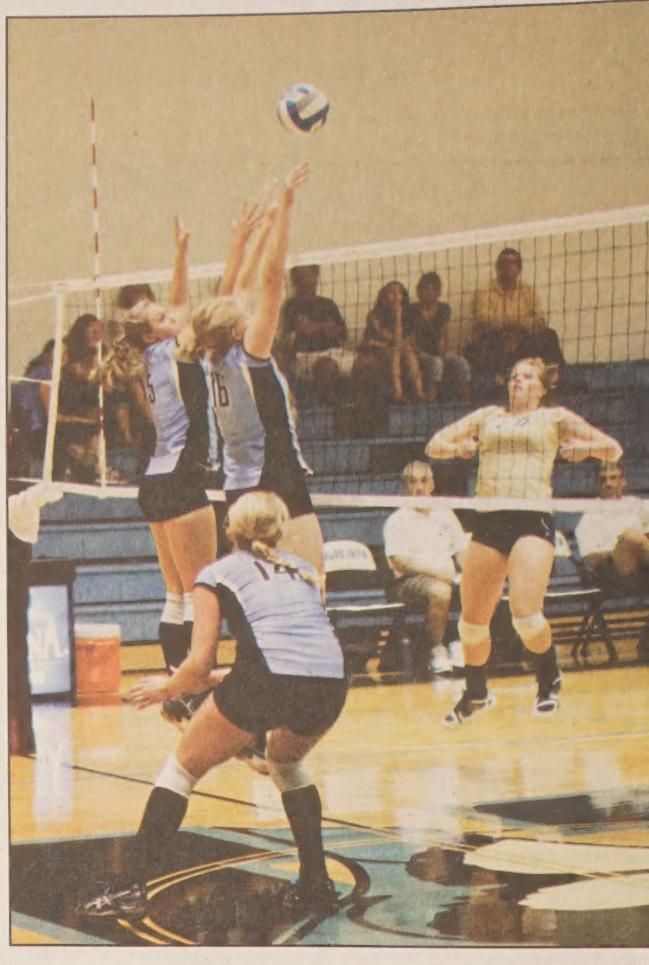
DID YOU KNOW?

Johns Hopkins placed 13th in the 2009-2010 Learfield Sports Directors' Cup - the second highest finish to date in school history. The Directors' Cup goes to the school with the most points earned from its nine best Men's and Women's Athletic teams by the National Association of College Directors of Athletics.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY

Field hockey vs. Salisbury 5 p.m.



MORGAN YANG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Amelia Thomas watches KC Stingl and Sarah Feicht attempt to block a Gallaudet hit.

New v'ball coach Matt Troy wins two of first four games

By MORGAN HITZIG
For The News-Letter

neva on Friday night in its season opener. The Jays lost the first set 27-25, before rebounding to win the second set 25-17. The momentum swung back in Geneva's favor to close out the match with a tough loss for the Jays, 3-1.

On Saturday afternoon, the team split matches, falling to DeSales 3-2 before a 3-0 victory over Goucher to give the new head coach his first victory as a Blue Jay.

Brittany Zimmer opened the match with two service aces and Hopkins won the match in straight sets (25-12, 25-15, 25-21).

"We played well and look forward to what will hopefully be a successful season," Senior Taryn Segal said. "We came out playing strong against Geneva, and although we lost to DeSales, we have a better idea."

SEE VOLLEYBALL, PAGE B11

COURTESY JHU ATHLETICS

Hopkins Assistant Athletic Director Mike Mattia with captains Corey Adams (sophomore) and seniors Kevin Hueber and Evan Kleinberg.

Men's Soccer wins Blue Jay Invitational Crown

By MIKE PORAMBO
For The News-Letter

The #6 Johns Hopkins Men's Soccer team opened their season with two convincing victories en route to being crowned champions of the Blue Jay Classics.

They followed through and beat the Spartans of York on Wednesday, September 8.

In the second game of the tournament, the Blue Jays man-handled Buffalo State, 7-0, with six different players finding the back of the net.

The next day, Hopkins defeated Catholic University by a score of 1-0.

Junior defender Corey Adams was named MVP of the tournament.

The Wednesday afternoon match, away at York, featured an 11th minute goal for the lead from Sean Coleman. Evan Kleinberg got the assist.

In the second overtime, Thom-

as Mourmouras, ended the game with a golden goal in the 106th minute.

Entering the match, York was ranked 10th in the nation. This away match, against the perennial NCAA playoff foe, was one of the toughest games on the schedule. A remarkable victory.

With the wins, JHU, the pre-season favorite to win the Centennial Conference, improved to 3-0 on the season.

Opening their season vs. Buffalo State, Hopkins came out of the gates hot and never slowed down. In only the second minute of the game, senior Scott Bukoski handled a long ball that flew over the defense's heads and chipped it in over goalie Brian Dudek, his 45th career goal.

In the 37th minute, sophomore Brandon Sumpio made it 2-0, hitting a long shot from the left touchline just over the outstretched arms of the goalie. Sumpio led all scorers for the day with two goals.

The Blue Jays never gave Buffalo State a chance to catch up in the second half. Over a 30 minute span, Hopkins consistently maintained possession and scored five goals. In the 55th

SEE M. SOCCER, PAGE B11

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beat the Blue Jays, 2-1.

Following the successful 2009 season and a pre-season ranking of 6th in Division III, hopes are high for the upcoming season.

The Jays traveled to Salisbury, MD for a game with Fredonia State on Saturday.

The opening day match did not begin as the Jays might have hoped, as neither team was able to find the back of the net, leaving the teams knotted at 0-0 at the break.

The Jays did dominate the offensive side of the match during the first 45 minutes, outshooting the Blue Devils 14-5 and opening up a 4-2 advantage in corner kicks. The Lady Jays were only able to put one shot on goal, not testing freshman goalkeeper Kayleigh Forger until the second half.

The Jays also only allowed one shot on net in the first half, which was saved by junior Kristen Redsun.

The second half saw the floodgates open and the Jays pour in

five goals, the first coming just three minutes into play off the foot of senior midfielder Erin Stafford, with senior midfielder Sara Tankard providing the assist.

Further goals would come from Tankard, junior forward Leslie O'Brien, freshman forward Pamela Vranis, and freshman midfielder Christina Convey. Vranis and junior midfielder Erica Suter would also add assists.

Neither Forger, who finished with three saves and three goals allowed, nor Redsun, who finished with one save and no goals allowed, would finish the game in net. Sophomore Meaghan Meszaros would finish the game for the Blue Devils, allowing two goals and making three saves. The Jays would turn to freshman Kelly Leddy, who in 28 minutes of play would make no saves and allow no goals.

After the convincing win against Fredonia State, the Jays

looked to keep their momentum going in their game against in-state rival Salisbury, on Sunday. The Gulls, hosts of the series, were looking to bounce back from their 1-0 loss to Fredonia State in the series' opening match.

The Jays would not take so long to score in this match, as the first goal came in just the fifth minute. Junior midfielder Erica Suter would put the ball past sophomore goalkeeper Melissa Orgera, with Sara Tankard getting another assist.

Junior midfielder Sasha Reyes-Guerra would add an unassisted tally in the 45th minute, giving the Jays a 2-0 advantage at the half. The Jays also held a 16-2 advantage in shots and a 3-1 advantage in corners at the half.

The second half would see the Jays score once more, as a 65th minute corner kick from Sara Tankard would

SEE W. SOCCER, PAGE B11

Water Polo wins three at Navy Invitational

By AMY KLIVANS
For The News-Letter

The men's water polo team spent their Labor Day Weekend battling it out against ten other teams in Annapolis, Maryland at the Navy Open. The Blue Jays are now 3-1 – a solid start for season with high expectations.

With the team's top scorer Kyle Gertridge graduated, scoring responsibility falls to sophomore Alex Whittam. Whittam will need to keep up the strong offensive effort he exhibited last year in order to bring the Blue Jays back to the Eastern Championships.

Supporting Whittam offensively will be fellow sophomore and California native Kielan

Crow along with veteran captain Jeremy Selbst in the cage. The 2013 recruiting class featuring Whittam and Crow was ranked best recruiting class in Division III.

The Jays finished their season last year 17-17 with a 3-2 loss to Bucknell in the Eastern Championship's 3rd place match. "The team dynamic was great and it showed in the pool through a number of quality wins," Selbst said of last season.

"We were really top-heavy with seniors last year, which makes this an interesting year with a bit of a power shift going on because we graduated five of seven starters," Selbst said.

This off season resulted in several notable awards for Whittam

SEE POLO, PAGE B10

and Selbst as they were honored for both academic and athletic achievements during the 2009 season.

Selbst was named Third team Academic All-American, just the second water polo player at Hopkins to earn AAA honors. "It was an amazing honor to be named an ESPN Academic All-American," Selbst said, "and definitely something I never expected. Obviously we're all at Hopkins to perform academically, but I have to give a lot of the credit for the award to my teammates because if it wasn't for their play and the team dynamic

I wouldn't have been able to play at the same level that got me nominated and chosen

SEE POLO, PAGE B10

Hopkins fell in overtime to St. Mary's College of Maryland but bounced back to trounce the Catholic University Cardinals. Junior Carly Bianco posted two goals on Labor Day and has 17 shots on the season. Page B11

INSIDE

Fieldhockey: Off to 1-1 start

Athlete of the Week: Cecilia Furlong

Football: Week One Bye

Hopkins football put together one of the best seasons in school history in 2009. Despite losing some talent on offense and defense, Coach Margraff's players could make 2010 just as successful, if not more.

Page B10